MATURITY WITH CLASS CHIRON RISING MAGAZINE ISSUE #88 $7.95

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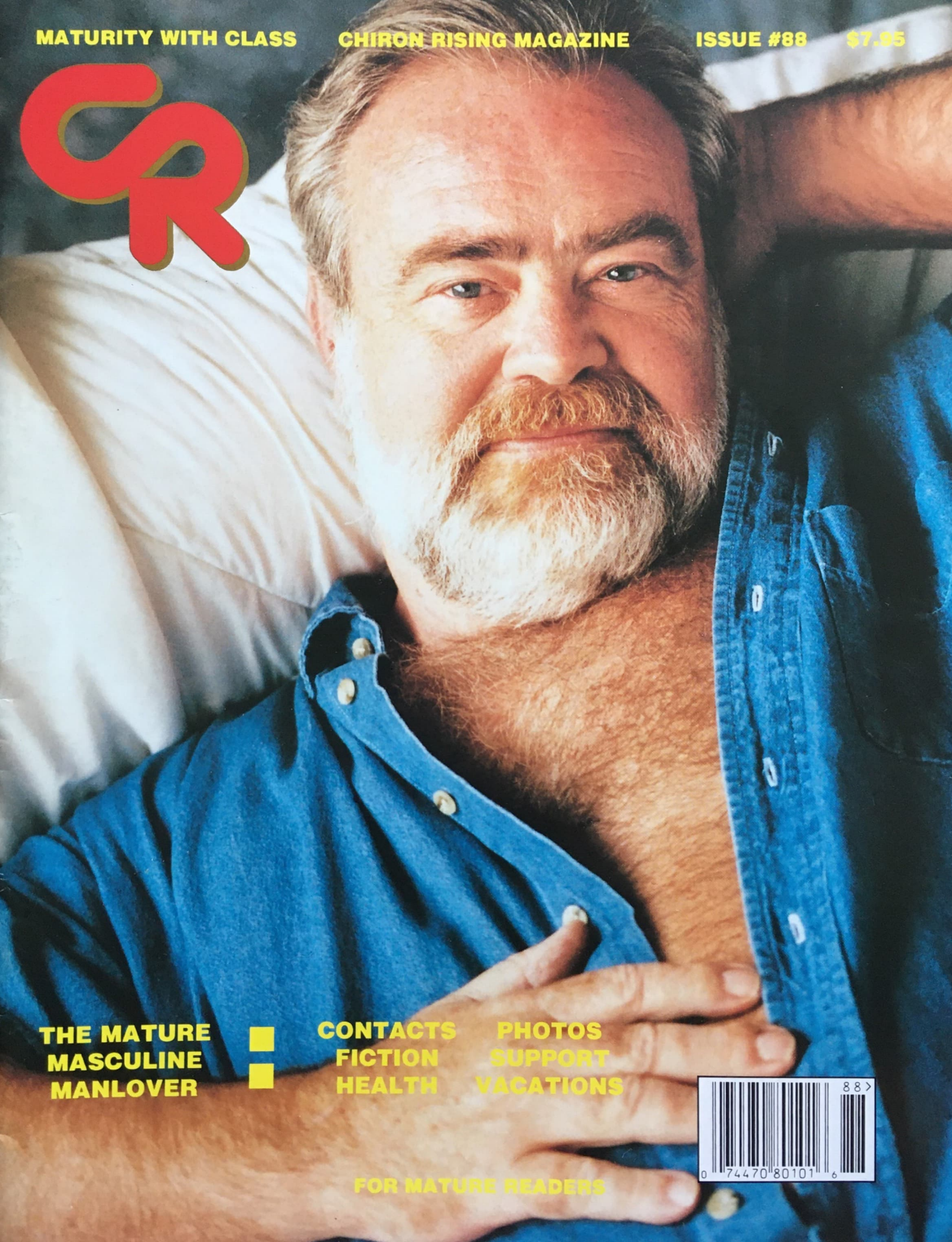

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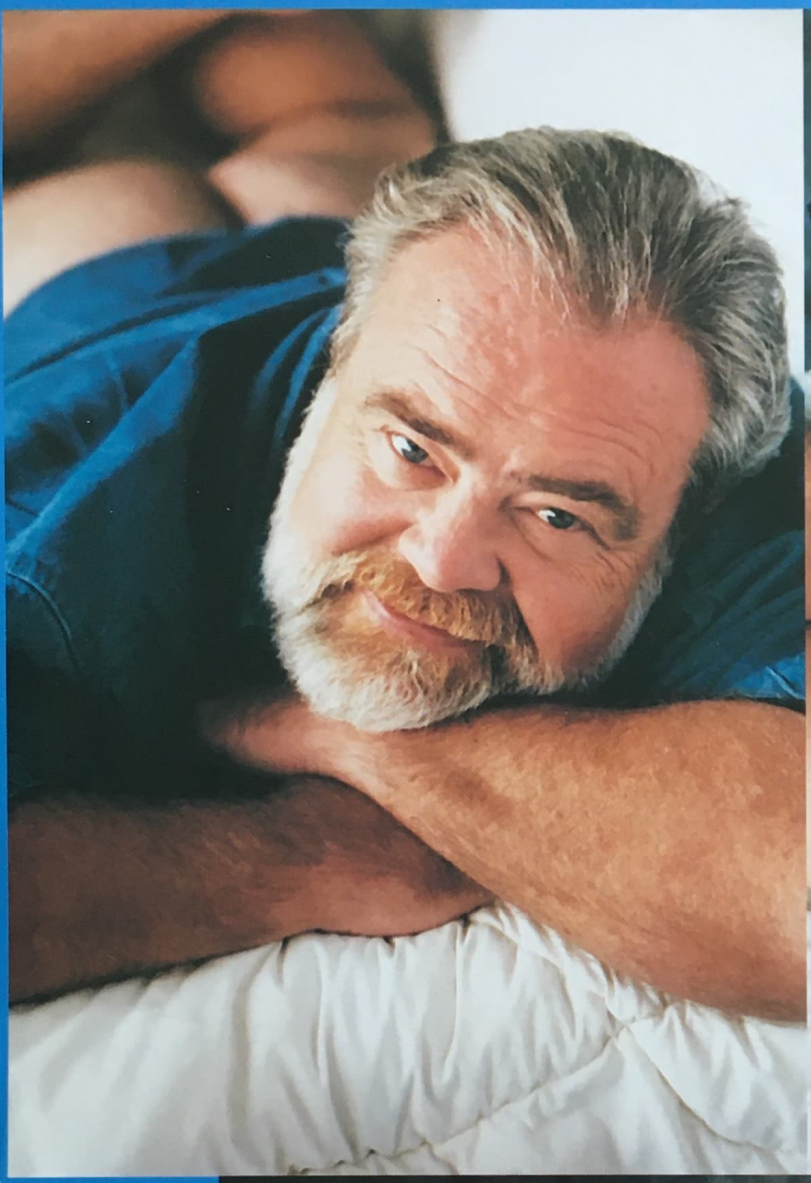

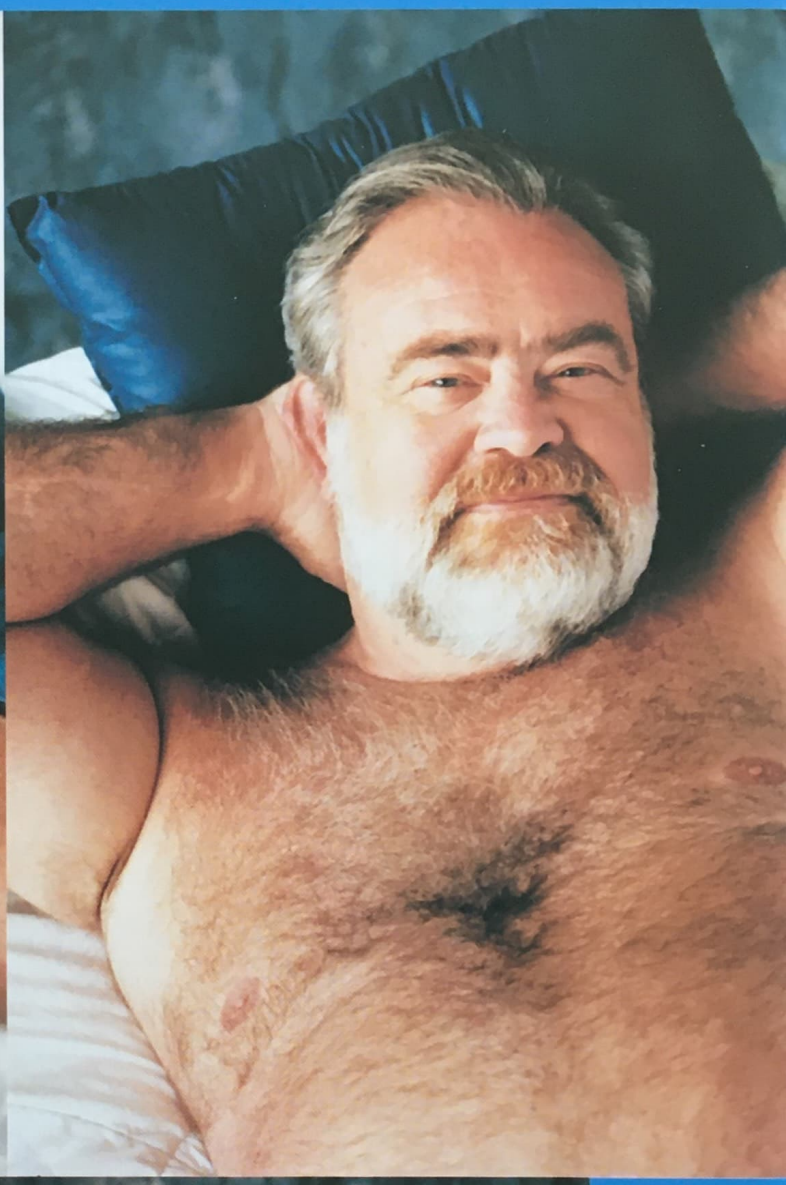

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PUBLISHER
Bruce A. Vaughan
EDITOR
Patrick H. Colley
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Manny

CHIRON RISING PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. Box 2589
Victorville, CA 92393
Telephone, Fax, Voice Mail within U.S.
(toll free) (888) 227-2935
Telephone, outside U.S.
(760) 868-6371
Fax, outside U.S.
(760) 868-0328
e-mail: crpi@aol.com
website: www.apollonetwork.com/chiron

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To readers: The above address is for disclosure only. Not for correspondence.

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WHO'S WHO IN THIS ISSUE

MODELS

FRONT COVER and PAGE 2 - **BAREBEN**: 58, 5'-8", 224#, Upper Midwest. Likes interesting, intelligent men who can converse on any subject and who enjoy good food, good music, good theater, and good company. Not looking for a permanent relationship, just good buddies and loyal, discreet friends. Travel, bridge and U.S. stamps are his hobbies. Likes world-wide contacts and emphasis.

PAGE 11 - **CHICAGO WILL**: 55, 5'-9", 240#, Chicago, single. Likes people, theater, arts, reading, gardening, travel. Looking for someone special, sincere friendship, possible long-term relationship.

PAGE 12 - **PUSSYCAT**: 67, 5'-11", 165#, Central Ohio, single. Likes classical music, gardening, pets and quiet times. Looking for friendship and penpals. See you in Orlando '99!

PAGE 14 - **MART**: 66, 5'-11", 190#, Nebraska, single. Likes travel, jazz-blues, art-architecture, cooking-dining, and a warm and friendly body next to mine. Looking for anyone with an interesting approach.

PAGE 15 -**CHUBBY TOY**: 68, 5'-11", 250#, N.E. New Jersey/NYC, single. Likes winters in Ft. La-La-Dale, cooking/party-giving, travel and theater. Looking for fun, sexy man, age 30 to 50 to spend quality time with.

PAGE 19 - **SMITY**: 61, 5'-11", 200#, South Oregon Coast, single. Likes outdoors, cooking, men, beards, hairy, whatevers. Looking for older men/younger men, old-at-heart.

PAGE 25 - **DRIVER**: 63, 5'-11", 260#, Las Vegas, in an open relationship. Likes swimming, cards. Looking for friends, especially younger Asians.

PAGE 26 - **ARNIE**: 62, 5'-9", 195#, Rhode Island, in an open relationship. Likes computers, travel, swimming, nudism, hiking. Looking for fun with older men, good company, friendships.

PAGE 27 - **JERSEY JIM**: 67, 5'-11", 183#, New Jersey/New York City, single. Likes reading, travel, Broadway shows, teaching college part-time. Looking for men with similar qualities, any age/race. **BILL THE COOK**: 74, 5'-7", 275#, Midwest, in a closed relationship. Likes cooking, travel, gardening, television. **K.J.**: 43, 6 ft., 220#, Somerset, England, single. Likes cooking, driving, warm weather, theater, music, American cops. Looking for stocky, hairy, greying, 45+, for cuddle kisses.

PAGE 28 - **GENNADIJ**: 52, 173 cm, 81 kg, Russia, medical doctor. Likes painting, movies, pop-rock music, male friendship, traveling, collecting mint stamps, cards and FDS, nude photos. Will answer all letters. **R.G. OF LOUISIANA**: 63, 5'-7", 160#, Arnaudville, Louisiana. Likes reading, exercising, playing tennis. Looking for friendship, all ages. Color is not important. Trim only. **TENNESSEE GARY**: 41, 5'-7", 160#, Middle-Tennessee, single. Likes travel, reading, animals, golf, bowling. Looking for intelligent, laid-back, easy-going, funny men. E-mail: Bchunter38@aol.com

PAGE 29 - **BUCKSKIN**: 67, 6'-1", 245#, Southern California, in a closed relationship. Likes nature. Looking for friendship. **INDIANA COLT**: 32, 6 ft., 200#, Indiana, single. Likes sporting events, movies, cooking, and travel. Looking for gentlemen over 55 for possible relationship and more. Would relocate for right warm and caring man. **BILL & RICHARD**: 58/74, 6'-1"/5'-11", 250#/160#, Southern California, in an open relationship with each other. Like old cars, art, music, theater, furry bears. Looking for hair, mature men or couples.

PAGE 30 - **PICO**: 75, 5'-9", 170#, Palm Springs, in an open relationship. *Note from photographer, Benjamin: I'm the unofficial president of the PICO Fan Club, and I talked PICO into letting me write his biographical sketch. He has deep brown eyes that are the most beautiful on earth. He's got the prettiest butt that I have ever seen and wonderfully bushy eyebrows. He's an avid outdoorsman, a very strong hiker, and enjoys science and music. He also likes long sessions, during which he always gets off at least twice, and sometimes three times! He's looking for a mature man, HIV negative, nonsmoker, a healthy weight, for friendship.*

PAGE 31 - **JOSEPH OF LITHUANIA**: 37, 180 cm, 71 kg, Lithuania, single. Likes art, theater, traveling. Looking for affectionate, honest, sincere, older man, 55+.

PAGE 32 - **RYDER**: 35, 6 ft., 179#, Texas, single. Likes older men, fairs, rollercoasters, MCC, hugging. Looking for a long-term relationship with a stocky, masculine man. **JAVI**: 41, 5'-4", 160#, Nashville, single. Likes sports, travel, outdoors, cuddling, theater. Looking for silver fox, 55 to 60. Send picture, please. **NEW YORK TAURUS**: 68, 5'-11", 220#, Western New York State, single. Likes outdoors, cooking, craft shows, bicycling, cuddling, kissing, quiet times, and that special person with similar likes. **JULIUS**: 39, 6'-5", 188#, Germany, single. Likes body building, hair dressing, music, nature, shows, old architecture. Looking for man, 45-70, masculine, strong, tender, French A/P, Greek A. Must like kissing and cuddling. Hairy body a plus.

PAGE 33 - **NEW JERSEY MAC**: 61, 6 ft., 235#, New Jersey, single. Likes cooking, camping, beaches, nudity (indoors and out), music. Looking for sober men, 45+, who are comfortable with themselves, men who are also looking for friendship and more.

PAGE 34 - **JASON**: 69, 5'-9", 150#, Toronto, single. Likes music, tennis, swimming, theater, travel, men over 50, clean-shaven, friendly, penpals for eventual meetings. **BSTAR56**: 58, 6 ft., 330#, Montreal, single. Likes bridge, computers **JEM300**: 37, 5'-11", 195#, Northwest Florida, single. Likes bowling, nude beaches, computers, older hairy men, 55+. Looking for long-term relationship, good friendship, a buddy to share life with.

PAGE 35 - **BEAR F**: 58, 5'-8", 13

stone -2lb, Australia, single. Likes music, reading, computers. Looking for bear-type men, 40-60. E-mail: BearF@bigpond.com

PAGE 36 - **RICHARD**: 61, 5'-6", 173#, Texas, single. Likes old cars, travel, shows, entertaining. Looking for bearded/mustached men, stocky a turn-on, older and bald, very oral, who love to kiss and cuddle all night long. *[Editor's Note: RICHARD lost his home to the floods in Central Texas, but fan mail will reach him through us.]*

PAGE 39 - **WINGNUT**: 60, 5'-11", 178#, Southern California, single, with unusual life-style, single. Loves camping, walks, kissing, cuddling, and oral sex often. Seeking long-term relationship with younger, romantic, fun loving, sincere partner.

PAGE 42 - **BOTTOM BEAR**: 41, 5'-10", 220#, Columbus, Ohio, single. Likes all sports, reading, cooking, movies, music (C & W preferably), quiet evenings at home with Mr. Right. Looking for older men, tops, with silver/gray hair, bearded/moustached, hairy, for possible long-term relationship.

PAGE 50, 51 - **E.L. RUKO**: 66, 6 ft., 220#, West Texas, single, free-lance writer. Likes gardening, discussing politics, arts, theater, travel. Wrote the book on chili. Looking for youngish son, writer's aid, solid bottom for friendship. Long-term relationship possible.

PAGE 58 - **CHICAGO DONALD**: 63, 5'-11", 230#, Chicago, in an open relationship. Likes summertime in Chicago, relaxing at the beach, dining out, going to movies and theater. Looking for companionship and possibly more from healthy, honest, intelligent guys. Age open.

PAGE 59 - **SANTA STEVE**: 56, 6'-1", 225#, Seattle, in an open relationship. Likes boxer dogs, music, cooking, books, restoring old homes, being Santa Claus. **CHUCKEE**: (SEE ARTISTS) **SANTA CLAUS**: 70, 5'-8", 325#, Michigan, in an open relationship with GRANDPA CHASER. Likes playing Santa during craft shows, collecting TV lamps. Looking for horny, slim studs, hairy bodies, young.

PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

MIKE DEVEAU: 45, 5'-10", 220#, Palm Springs, single. He likes to have fun and is looking for other people to have fun with. Destined to photograph every hot mature man in the Palm Springs area.

JOEL: 32, Austin, in an open relationship with CR model THOM. He's always on the lookout for new models and has been known to travel widely just for the perfect shot.

MANNY: 48, 6'-3", 235#, Maryland, single. Looking for a long-term relationship with just the right mature, masculine, husky gentleman, 50+, who is healthy and hairy. Short and stocky men turn him on as well as the big and burly kind. The best cover-quality photographer around.

PHOTOMAN: 50, St. Louis, single. An expert at getting hot, mature men (as well as admirers) to take it all off for the camera. A retired professional photographer who will travel for a good photo shoot. The only photographer we know who can organize hundreds of men to pose for super group shots.

ARTISTS

RAM is a prominent portrait and landscape artist who lives in Illinois and Florida with his partner, Bob. He spends most of his time in horticulture and painting. His peerless erotic works have been exclusively featured for over 10 years in CR.

ABE is an awesome-looking young bear who lives in almost-rural Montana and loving every minute of it. An equally awesome erotic artist, he loves to receive letters and photos from hung daddies for his artistic inspiration. As far as we know, he's single. ABE's been with us for over 10 years.

CHUCKEE is 71, 5'-7", 230#, and lives in San Francisco. He is in an open relationship with CR model DAN-DEE. He likes laughs, surprising someone every day, weightlifting, swimming, and DAN-DEE.

WRITERS

JED MUIR served as an officer in the U.S. Merchant Marines during World War II. He's published other articles in establishment magazines, but this is his first erotic story in CR. He is in an open relationship with a younger man and lives in Atlanta. Would love to hear from readers.

B.A. VAUGHAN is 78, 5'-8", 200#, in an open relationship with PAT, CR's Editor. In addition to being the publisher of CR, he is a retired banking officer and a retired Lt. Colonel from the U.S. Air Force. His riveting account of being a prisoner of war in Germany during World War II, originally published in 1990, will be available on CR's website soon.

HOLLING THOMAS is a retired Northwest resident who enjoys travel, music, writing, cooking, and correspondence.

P.H. COLLEY is 58, 6 ft., 300#, in an open relationship with BRUCE, CR's publisher. In addition to being the editor of CR, he has written and published eight novels, a book of short stories, and various short fiction published in CR and CR Classics.

WANT TO WRITE TO A MODEL, PHOTOGRAPHER, ARTIST OR WRITER?

WRITE TO ANY CONTRIBUTOR THE SAME WAY YOU WOULD WRITE AN ADVERTISER WITH A CODEWORD. SEE PAGE 47 FOR DETAILS.

TAKE THE PLUNGE AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOGRAPH TO CR FOR PUBLICATION

(See page 13 for details)

FORUM

SLIP AND CUP AND LIP?

>> Thanks for sending along the promotion package for CR. It is very generous (and, I'm sure, costly). I am a bit puzzled about how you differ from CENTAUR, but I'll subscribe anyway. The photos show me that, like CENTAUR's readership, you tend to favor guys who, shall we say discreetly, should have begun pushing away the mashed potatoes sometime around the onset of puberty. I am 68, 5'-11", 162#, and pepper-and-saltish. So, maybe I am a bit underweight for your members. Well, we'll see. I'm planning to be in Palm Springs over the New Year's holidays to decimate the Jack Rabbits and loll around in clothing-optional spas, as a sort of vacation. But slip and cup and lip, you know. I'd love to know more about your Florida convention—what happens, who attends, why attend, and so on. Any information you can supply, the better. And thanks again. You have been real classy in sending such a rich-looking promotion package. B.F./NYC

CR publishes every technically acceptable photograph submitted, regardless of the size, shape or color of the model. What you see in CR is indicative of what exists in the real world. We "tend to favor" no one type. PHC

87

>> Issue 87 is a lovely issue. Wonderful photographs. The trio on the back page is incredible! Of course I was really turned on by GRANDPA CHASER. I was pleased and surprised by the frank hard-on of the man from Lithuania! You can't have too many hard-ons for me. A LITTLE BACKGROUND MUSIC (by John Peebles) was just a delight. It all rang so true and plausible, as well as very sexy and tender. A great story. Your piece, TWO, was full of such love and tenderness for your dogs—both past and present. I can now share your feelings for dogs, because we have one now. She's a feisty little pitt bull/Lab mix that we rescued from a shelter. Dark chocolate brown, almost black, with a white chest. Her name is Winifred, but we call her "Fred." We understand your need to cut back to being a quarterly and support you in that. Ever so fondly, PLOVER and QUEZTAL

We will publish images of men with erections because we feel that an unmolested, tumescent penis does not constitute pornography, even the soft variety. So far, federal guidelines agree with us. In this business, however, you're damned if you do and damned if you don't. So far, the reaction to our going quarterly is a resigned disappointment. PHC

>>You have no idea how happy I was when I opened my box at the post office and saw that big yellow envelope. I can't wait to jump in my car to open it. I open it on page #10, and wow, what a LINCMAN! I know I am only a poor Mexican, but you two live in my heart forever because you were there for me when I lost Frank. My wife, she is very happy you give me the pleasure of the magazine. She said she never saw me more happy than when I get CR. F.D./ Texas

>> HOWARDCLAY (FORUM, CR87) has some very interesting observations. Having ignored in the past all the malicious criticism on the internet and at the mixers, I paused over his letter and wondered: just why are so many within these senior organizations constantly rattling spears at CR. Probably for the same reason that Catholics and Protestants kill each other (not to mention Fascists/Communists and Jews/Muslims and Pro-Lifers/Pro-Choicers, and Hutus/Tutsis). Gotta hate SOMEONE, especially if they are different. So what is the primary difference? The organizations HOWARDCLAY mentions serve senior men and admirers within the gay community. Invariably, ALL gay media from local newsmagazines to international soft porn, as well as ALL gay organizations, pledge allegiance to the rainbow flag and rubber stamp the politically correct agenda. Gay first; senior men second. CR, on the other hand, should not be classified as a gay organization. It goes well beyond "gay" and offers a safe haven for ANY man, whether gay, bisexual, bi-curious, sexually eclectic, bored heterosexual, or even asexual. I am so proud that you brave people steadfastly avoid politics and march to a different drum. You are the real rainbow. SONOMA/Indio, CA

>> The letter by HOWARDCLAY upset a lot of people I know, but I doubt very seriously that you will receive any official flak. No one has the guts—or the facts—to challenge what was said. I know Ken Gould. I also know that, without Ken Gould, the New York chapter of Prime Timers would never have gotten off the ground. Without Ken Gould and Chiron Rising, Prime Timers would today be no more than Boston's version of San Diego's FOG. (Initials withheld by request)/New York City

>>Based on what I've been reading lately in CR, you haven't fared too well with the gay porn industry, specifically the new porn kings who crank out "gay senior porn." I applaud you for distancing yourself from the whole scene, even though I have purchased every video Swan produced. That was then, but now is a different story. If Jike Monsoon screws those who helped him get started, and if AARON is capable of such rank attempted character assassination, then I choose to boycott their videos. But more than that, these two producers are the first ones the U.S. Postal Inspectors will raid when Congress gets through passing their new porn laws. Why? Because they aren't abiding by the law and will be easy kills. I most certainly don't want my name and address showing up on a confiscated data base, so I now buy my videos in stores. By the way, I'm one of those who asked for and received the "rap sheet" AARON created on you. THIS GUY IS A PUBLIC

SCHOOL TEACHER?!? R.P./Los Angeles

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>> Thanks for the great fiction in CR. RAY BRYAN gave a very believable glimpse of the simplicity of another time, and BOB SKEATE invited us into his home and his life. To both, I say, "Encore!" Jon/St. Louis

>>I have to say that this is the best magazine I have ever read. You guys have really brought a new level of respect and beauty to the mature male that I feel is a welcome relief from all of the hard porn out there. There is no porn in your publication, just simple beauty of the mature man, whether they are clothed or not. They are so beautiful because you show them as they are. To all of you who model for the magazine, keep those photos coming, because you are all centerfolds in my book. J.E.P.L./ Columbus

NEEDS A SPONSOR

>> You spend your whole life trying to find happiness, but first you must know what happiness really is! Happiness to me would be getting some help to get to the Gathering in 1999. Would really appreciate some help with plane fare, or whatever I can get. Your magazine has so much of what I like, it drives me crazy. I am 35 and like heavy, older men like MICHIGAN MONTE. I run my own business in a small town in Michigan and, out of fear, I have to go out of town to find companionship—and I'm not having much luck. Not that the Gathering will bring me the love of my life, but you never know. I would really appreciate your help in getting me introduced to someone who could help. MICHIGAN MECHANIC

MAKING CR LOOK BAD

>> I must inform you that I sent before a letter with letters to be forwarded, but I never get any reply. I sent to WARREN (CR 81) and MONTREAL PANDA (CR 81). It would be nice of the above two men to send at least a thank-you note to the guys who wrote to them! Thanks for your help. I hope this time to be more lucky! D.T./Athens, Greece

FREDDY GATOR WINS THE DAY

>> I felt for years that I could not be a gay man, because I did not "look" like the way gay men had been portrayed by the media monsters. Then one day, while visiting an adult bookstore at my alma mater of 25 years, Indiana University, I saw my first CR Magazine on the stand with FREDDY GATOR's inviting, mainstream looking face on the cover. Oh, my geeeezzzz!!! Love at first sight! Without hesitation, I bought it, rushed to my car, opened it and felt an immediate sense of being found, comforted and normal. CR has become a staple of mine. It is adult, sensual, interesting, and certainly not mindless. I suspect I am not alone in needing to thank you for all you have done with this publication. It has helped me creep from the closet of confusion and shame to accept myself, and, although my wife knows all and has for twenty years, to help me transfer from that situation into a complete relationship with another mature, well-centered man as I consider myself. I don't know that you receive kudos frequently, but with the risk of "overload," consider this another vote of appreciation. Just deeds often receive just rewards as well. Many thanks, a thousand times over. John (via e-mail)

We publish this wonderful letter to extend the kudos to all those directors, staffers, entertainers, hosts, volunteers, photographers, writers, artists, and models who are as much responsible for CR's greatness as Bruce and I. PHC

THE TEXAS FLOODS

>> I am relaying a message from RICHARD. He lost his entire household in the terrible floods we had here this past weekend. We are working on salvaging a few items, but very little is left. WOTAN/San Antonio

RICHARD is the very popular cover model of CR #83. He wants all his correspondents and friends to know that he has lost all his addresses and telephone numbers. Those wishing to stay in touch with RICHARD should write him in care of CR until he can find a new place to live. PHC

LOST IN CENTRAL NY STATE

>> While browsing through the net, I came across your e-mail address. I want to ask if there is anyone out there in my area, Central NY State, with whom I can talk about the loss of a spouse. I am 55 and was married for 32 years. My wonderful wife passed away 11 months ago. Have been having a rough go lately. My daughter lives 8 hours away, and with no relative near, I am virtually "flying solo." I have been looking at the possibility of an "alternate life-style," but living in the country, there isn't much to compare with. So the internet has been the only "outlet" I have had. If I could find another (not female) with a similar situation, I could ask so many questions. Like: Cooking for one? Eating alone? Even sex—solo is all I have now. Need to really talk about this one. If anyone would like to talk, no matter where they live, I am listening. Stats: 55, 5'-8", looking into alternate life-style (bi-curious). d4153@juno.com

ENTERING THE CIRCLE

>> I am very happy to have discovered CR and would like to thank you for filling this long-time void for those of us who are not among the young and the beautiful but do have the purely human need to have friends, confidants and companions. It is with great optimism that I enter the circle of Chiron's membership and sincerely hope to make that meaningful relationship we all pursue. J.W./Maine

SEEING THE LIGHT

>> I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for putting out such a fine magazine. Without CR I still wouldn't know what to do with myself. I never thought anyone else felt the way I did. I thought I was the only person in the world who liked "mature men." Not only do I get the privilege of looking at such gorgeous men, but I feel as though I'm learning something about myself (as well as others). Now I don't feel so left out anymore. I have the comfort and the knowledge that there are quite a bit of other people just like me out there. I'll never forget the day I was fortunate

enough to find your magazine. I went to my local adult store looking for a video to rent, when all of a sudden I saw an older gentleman on the cover of a magazine. I forget which issue it was, but I was so attracted to this model that I just had to take a peek. And when I looked inside, I nearly wet myself! I was just so awestruck, I had to get this magazine. That night I read CR from cover to cover twice. And this has been my favorite magazine ever since. That was about three years ago. And now that I have a computer the Apollo Network is my favorite website! Without CR, I would have never met Glynn. He unfortunately lives in London, but I write to him daily. We get along so well that he has invited me over for Christmas vacation. It's too bad that we live so far apart from one another, but if it wasn't for your magazine, I would have NEVER found him. So guys, once again, my deepest gratitude goes out to you and all who help you. Henry (via e-mail).

ON-LINE FICTION

>> I was just reading your novella, KNOWING SATURN, which was posted on the Apollo Network and found it to be very interesting. I've never replied to other writers, but I found your story very detailed and very REAL. I like the life reflections in the story and really enjoy reading it. Mafia, drugs, a real love story .... Maybe you are a real writer. Cheers. K.C./New Zealand

>>Wow, what a story! I just finished reading KNOWING SATURN, and it's just great. You are fast becoming one of my favorites! I have to say I was on the edge of my seat until the end. I guess I just get into the story too much, but I love doing so. I think it's really great the way things turned out in the end. Keep up the good work. A BIG FAN. Frank (via e-mail)

>>I just finished reading REDEMPTION FOR THE SATYR and want to tell you how much I enjoyed it. I thought it was beautifully written. I was especially impressed with the beauty and elegance of your characterizations. You were able to create characters that rang true and came to life for me. I admire the efficiency and skill with which you did that. I also enjoyed the plot line and especially enjoyed the erotic edge contained in the piece Reading REDEMPTION has inspired me to read more, so I have started on ZONES and am enjoying it very much. I'm intrigued by the South Texas connections. I was born and raised in San Antonio. Are you a Texas boy by any chance? I have been a fan of CR for quite some time (I have 30 back issues) and want to thank you and Bruce for the efforts you expend in producing it. Someday I'll get up the courage to go to one of the gatherings. I send my best regards to you both. Gene (via e-mail)

I was born in Ranger, Texas on July 17, 1940, and raised in Houston and Odessa. It's amazing how many people have e-mailed me regarding my three novellas and short story collection posted on the Apollo Network. I am truly honored. QUINCUNX, KNOWING SATURN, ZONES, and REDEMPTION FOR THE SATYR can be read free at: <http://www.apollonetwork.com> . WHORES and SANCTUM will be available at <http://www.chiron-rising.com> over the next few weeks. [© Patrick H. Colley. Unauthorized copying for distribution or sale is prohibited]

THE ORANGE WRIST BAND

>> I've been wearing the orange band around my wrist since the Gathering, but it came off on September 30th in the Glendale YMCA pool, where a number of your readers work out. When they spotted the wrist band, they freaked. If you want me to wear it all year, it will have to be made of sturdier material. I'm sending it to you. I'm sorry it cracked. It had turned a nice pale orange. Meanwhile we are getting settled in Glendale, and the reason you haven't been invited is we don't have a bed yet for our extra bedroom. We've bought a car, a fridge, a bed, etc., and as soon as we buy a new computer so I can search the internet and get websites, then we'll buy another bed. PATRICK O'CONNOR/ Glendale

THOSE WHO BITCH

>> I cannot believe that people have the BALLS to bitch and gripe about CR. They should be thankful that someone cares enough to go to all the trouble of creating such a wonderful masterpiece. I am 35 and have a great man for a partner. And I'm thankful for that every day. I grew up thinking I was some kind of freak because I always found myself attracted to mature men. I only came out about 3 years ago. And the reason I did was because I found your magazine. Wrote to a few models and I was hooked. I have some really great friends now and enjoy my life a lot more. Even though I never met the boys from CR, I feel that you are great friends also. Love, MART MAN

CAN'T TAKE HIM ANYWHERE

>>On his first night in London, I took the famous CR model, BAY AREA JOHN (previously BAY AREA TOP), to the City of Quebec Pub, where he was recognized by five people and cruised by hundreds. See how popular CR is in this country? J.T./Windsor

A TRUE GENTLEMAN IN TONGA

>>I am very grateful to acknowledge your kindness and generosity in publishing my photo and profile. I have three wonderful older men who replied to me, and I am the happiest in all Tonga. Therefore, I must thank you a million and your wonderful magazine in making my fantasy and dream come true. I must also thank you for the CR issue 86, which arrived with no hassle at all. I will cherish it forever and I will do my best to spread the word. SOLO/Tonga

SOMEONE FOR EVERYONE

>>This is a letter of thanks for two great things that you and your wonderful magazine have done for me in the past several months. First of all, I would like to thank you and the others who voted me into the CR HALL OF FAME. I consider it a great honor and a special privilege to have such an award. Secondly, thanks for giving me the faith that I would find a man that I could love and care for and that he would feel the same for me. Your magazine has a saying, "There is someone for everyone," and that has been my inspiration since

1995, when I encountered the Godsend, Chiron Rising. Again, thanks for everything, and I look forward to seeing you in Orlando. TINY/Minneapolis

One day, a very wise and lucky guy will claim this grand prize of a man and never look back. PHC

SILVER SIMBA

>> I don't know if you remember either Jay or myself, but we attended the '94, '95, and '96 conventions. I was the one pushing my lover everywhere in a wheelchair. We both had the privilege of meeting both of you, so maybe you will recall. I'm writing to give you some very hurtful news. My lover of 11 years passed away the morning of October 3rd. The last two plus years had been very difficult for Jay and me. He had COPD, a pulmonary disease which comes from smoking. Jay did smoke for many, many years. He had been on oxygen for about five years. In the last couple of years, the oxygen was needed around the clock. He was in the hospital from the 13th of November '97 until the 27th of May '98, then he was pretty much bedridden after that. We only got out when he had his doctor appointments. On that dreadful Saturday morning, I awoke and found Jay without a heartbeat and without breathing. When the EMS arrived, they could not do anything to revive him, as he had been like that for some time. I did talk to Jay for the last time Friday night late. He finally fell asleep some time after midnight, and I stayed up for another hour to make sure he was okay. I had planned to take Jay with me to work the following morning, as I work in a hospital. I planned to take him to the emergency room then go to work. I am taking this great, great loss very hard. I know there have been many relationships that lasted longer than ours, but 11 years is a long time. I thank God that I got that much. I would like to join the Order of the Silver Simba. God willing, I will be in Orlando. Eric/El Paso

For me, the sight of a younger man pushing his older lover in a wheelchair creates an indelible memory. I will never forget the way they showed their love for each other. Eric is an angel. PHC

>> I'm feeling stronger and happier, largely from the real help I got from the guys in your Silver Simba group. Michael of Santa Barbara, who called me twice, was the most encouraging, simply because of who he is. I would like to be like him at his age. Had several helpful discussions with E. H. and with Will from the Valley. Also talked with Andy of San Diego and Clem in L.A.. It surprised me that though all these men had been in much longer relationships, they have gone through exactly what I have. You are providing a service for older men that no one else is. I have already gone out on two dinner dates with sexy, sympathetic men who answered my ad. Thank you very much. I.O./Los Angeles

COMING OUT

>> To come out or not to come out. That is the question. It is a difficult decision to make and not one that can be taken lightly, as the implications can obviously have far-reaching effects. I think myself very lucky in that I have never had to make the choice. I feel that having lived with two lovely gentlemen for 10 years, before living the past 11 years with my partner, made as bold a statement that anybody needs to make. I am quite proud of the fact that I still live in the town where I was born and raised, despite the initial difficulties I encountered when it became quite obvious to everyone in town that I was gay. My life has been trouble-free.

I never told my family or friends that I was gay. Let's face it, do you really need to spell it out when you start to share a house and home with another man? I always thought there was no need to make an issue of it, because I felt that if I had to start looking for other people's acceptance and support, then I was admitting there was something wrong in what I was doing.

It has never even crossed my mind to tell anyone. I do not feel I have to make excuses or look for some kind of forgiveness. Why do people have such problems with this issue? Why do so many gays need the heterosexual world to say, "Hey, it's okay for you to be gay. We don't mind if you're different from us. We understand." Why not regard them as the different ones? Coming out seems like some sort of admission of guilt or a way of wanting to be accepted because we need someone's vote of confidence. Almost like saying I realise I am not your equal, but please let me share your world.

I think the gay press has a lot to answer for in making the issue difficult for people to come to terms with. I think they know the gay scene inside out, but they show little or no knowledge of the gay world. They reach and speak for a tiny minority of gay people, as most of us want nothing to do with them. I do not want to hear about their own gain and do not take into account the wider implications.

I have stood up for myself and fought my own battles and have never needed gay rights in my life. Perhaps once again I have been lucky in that the people where I live are decent people. But then I have never given them cause for concern and just lived my life pretty much the way they live theirs. Except when I go home to bed, it is with a big, bulky bear! People in general want to get on with their own lives and are not really interested in yours until you start to impose upon theirs, which is a big gay fault. Many tend to want the best of all worlds without earning the right by being decent people and behaving in a responsible and thoughtful way.

My one big advice to anyone who is considering quitting their home town and heading for the big city: We know it is easier to be gay when there is safety in numbers, but will you lose your identity and become just another face in a faceless crowd. If you like it where you are, stay and fight, because if you look around you, that is what most of us have done. The gay scene is only a small part of gay life. How many CR readers live in "Small Town" because they are happy there?

There is nothing wrong with coming out if that is what you want, but don't be conned into thinking you're not really gay unless the whole world knows about it. Because let's be brutally honest. Who gives a fuck about you anyway but those who are near and dear to you?

Thanks for letting me get this off my chest. GERONT/England

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bits and pieces

OUR NEW WEBSITE
www.chiron-rising.com

Okay, so it's not as slick as a professionally designed website, but it's ours and we're proud of it. Determined to do it ourselves, we upgraded to Pagemaker 6.5, a desktop publisher which can export in one of the languages used on the internet: HTML. Next, we found a server, a company that has all the hardware and software required and rents out space to small companies like ours. Next we acquired the software needed to actually go inside a website and "decorate" it. Four harrowing weeks later, we succeeded in getting our site up and running.

Except for a greeting shot of a near-nude FREDDY GATOR, the site will not feature any of our models. It is designed to attract gay, bisexual and mainstream audiences with articles and subsites like: WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT- the story of how we got started; HOW TO GET CR - downloadable forms; THE CR GATHERINGS - both Orlando and New Orleans, and including downloadable registration forms; FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS; OUR SPIRITUAL SIDE (Order of the Silver Simba, Spirit of Sammi Brotherhood, CR Friends); CR'S CYBERLIBRARY - featuring fiction and nonfiction by KEN RICHIE, PUG SNIDER, RALPH KELLY, P.H. COLLEY and others; and ART EXHIBIT - featuring sample artwork of, and links to the websites of, our great artists.

HALL OF FAME AWARDS FOR 1999

The votes from previous winners have been tallied, and we are pleased to announce the HALL OF FAME HONOREES for 1999. The following very special men will receive their awards for outstanding service to CR during the Orlando Gathering:

FURRY DADDY of Austin; HAMHOCK of Palm Springs
TOMCAT of Gulfport; FREDDY GATOR of Tampa
KIM BEAR of Palm Springs; MANNYof Washington, DC
PAUL CULTON of Los Angeles; OK HANK of Tulsa
NET BEAR of S.F. Bay Area; STEVE B. of Chicago
TINYof Minneapolis; ROBIN GOODFELLOW of England
JARON of Washington, DC
RALPH KELLEY (Posthumously)

GATHERING 99 GROUP TOURS COORDINATOR

Unless someone comes forward soon, we'll have to abandon our plan to coordinate group tours for those who want them. We need a coordinator volunteer who will set up special tours that will not conflict with other CR events. Such coordinator will be expected to do some ground work in advance of the gathering and coordinate with CR to determine what tours should be offered and when. The chosen coordinator will be made a staff member and will be given a complimentary registration and private room for four nights.

GATHERING 99 HEALTH AND SAFETY COORDINATOR

We have a need for a health professional (registered nurse, paramedic, etc., licensed in Florida a plus but not necessary) who will direct and coordinate any health emergency affecting delegates. He will be responsible for monitoring the treatment of delegates with disabilities and making sure such delegates are treated properly by the hotel and other delegates. He will coordinate with hotel security and local 911 response in case of emergency and must be proficient in CPR. The chosen Health and Safety Coordinator will be made a staff member and will be given a complimentary registration and private room for four nights.

EXPO

We are inviting any reputable individual, organization, or company that actively markets or offers goods and services for mature people to join us in our EXPO. If you know of someone who would like to participate, or if you offer a product or service that would be of interest to our delegates, contact CR for more information and clearance. All products and services must be legal. CRPI will charge only $10 per vendor for the two-day event to offset security and electricity charges. Larger displays may be charged for excessive power consumption. Credit card sales by manual imprint only. No telephone lines will be available for modems. CRPI will furnish one table and two chairs for each display and overnight security; however, all vendors will be responsible for their own equipment, inventories and receipts.

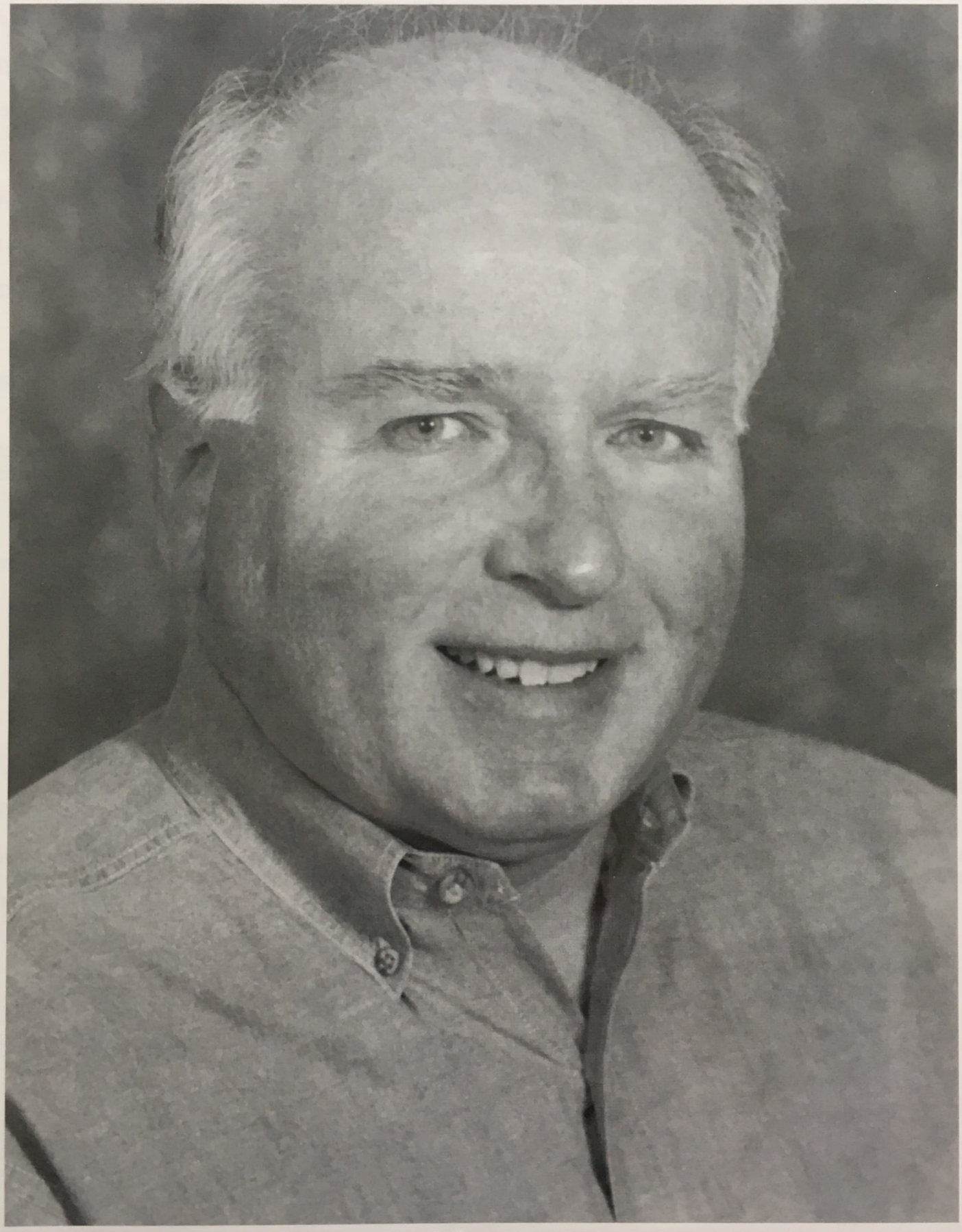
Some examples of vendors we are looking for: Astrologists, Authors, Bars, Bookstores, Caricaturists, Computer Services, Foot Therapists, Grooming Consultants, Health Apparatus Reps, Health Information, Health Products, Jewelers, Magazine Publishers, Manufacturers, Massage Therapists, Men's Accessories, Men's Fashions, Pharmaceutical Reps, Photographic Services, Psychic Readers, Restaurants, Retirement Centers, Senior Organizations, Specialty Shops, Support Organizations, Travel Services, Trinkets.

IMPORTANT: YOU MUST WRITE TO CRPI FOR CONFIRMED AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE.

OUR BELOVED GIRAFFE

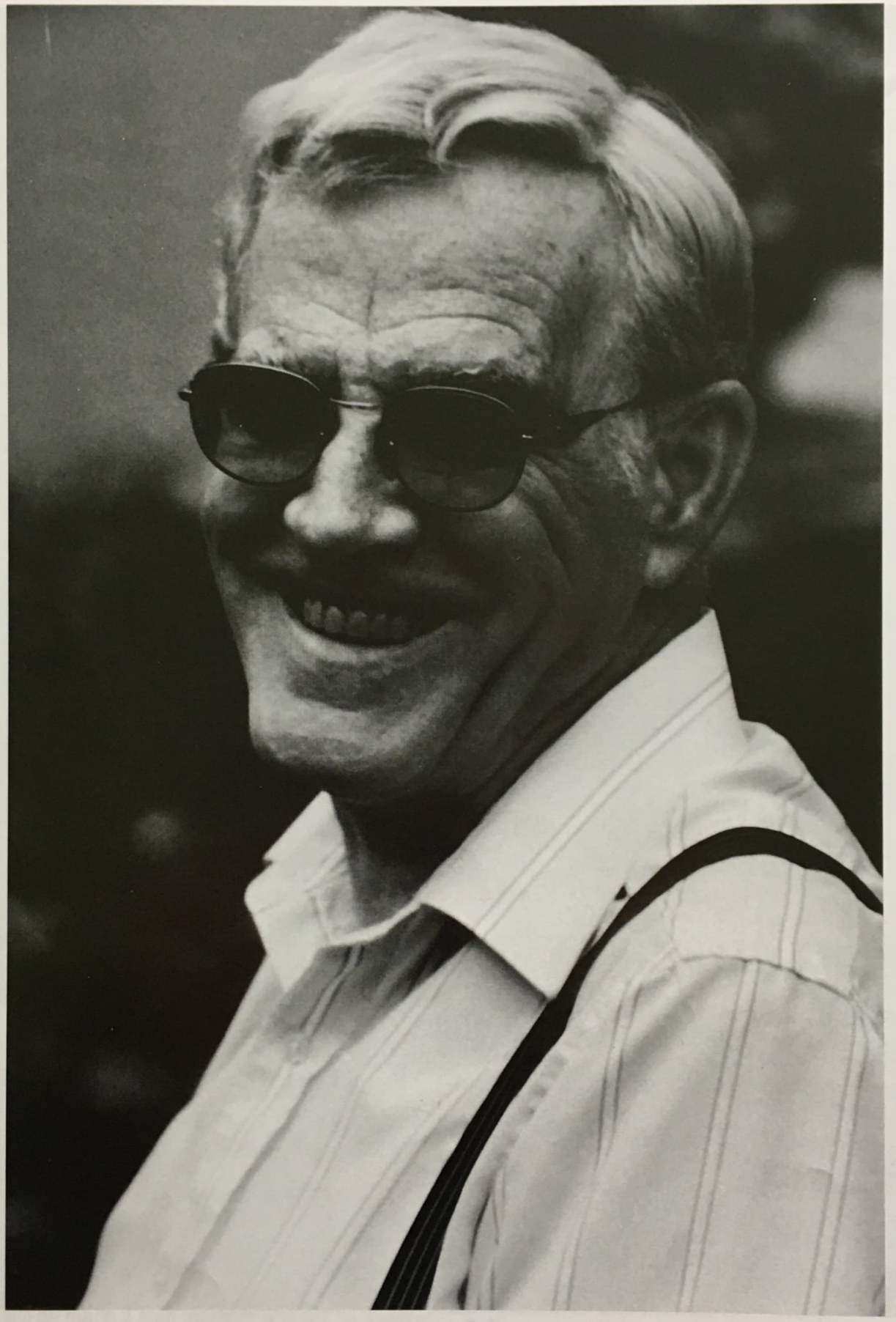
In the FORUM of CR 87, we published a very sad letter from author GIRAFFE (Bob Williams of San Francisco), advising of his worsening health. We regret to announce that Bob passed away on November 9th, but we do not have all the details as of this writing. We will publish an appropriate article in celebration of his life in the next issue. We and all his friends and fans will miss him terribly.

CHICAGO WILL



klaus

PUSSYCAT



biscuit

BE A CR MODEL AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

At CR we don't believe in the words "ugly" or "unattractive." We insist that no one is too fat or too skinny. Too tall? Bull shit! Too short? Our most popular models are short and chubby. And don't EVER say you're too old. Not for THIS magazine!

If you are 18 or over and want to become a CR model, send a sharply focused, well-contrasted, HIGH QUALITY 35 mm color or black and white photo of yourself. Do not send marginal snapshots; Polaroids; sex shots with obvious or simulated penetration or masturbation; photos with half your head or penis missing; portraits of yourself standing too far away; or prints with spots, lines, or ink marks that shouldn't be there.

Photos are not returned unless we are requested to do otherwise. If you want your photograph returned, SEND FOR IT AFTER IT IS PUBLISHED AND PROVIDE AN SASE.

The following form is required in order to have your photograph(s) featured in CR. Carefully write your name on the back of each submitted photograph and blot so that ink does not get on front of photo.

TO: CHIRON RISING PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX 2589
VICTORVILLE, CA 92393

FROM: _____

This is to certify that I am the owner of the publication rights to and the model featured in the photography enclosed herein. I assign one-time rights of publication to Chiron Rising Publications, Inc. I further certify that I am at least 18 years of age, having been born on _____, 19 ____. it is understood that all publication rights revert back to me upon publication and that my photography may have to be cropped to suit the needs of the publisher.

I hereby waive any compensation in return for the publication rights to subject photography.

I request that the name of _____ be published as the name of the model, in lieu of my real name. The photographer's name should be designated as _____.

The following information should be used in any biographical sketch accompanying my photography:

Age: _____: Height: _____: Weight _____: Area of Residence: _____.

Likes: _____.

Looking for: _____.

I do _____ do not _____ authorize the use of my photograph on the front cover of CR.

I am currently SINGLE _____/ in a SEXUALLY OPEN SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP _____/ in a MONOGAMOUS SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIP _____.

I certify that I have not signed a release with any other magazine for publication of THIS photography within the past year. I further certify that I will not authorize publication of THIS photography in any other magazine until same is published in CR. I promise to answer all letters forwarded to me as a result of my photo's publication and fully understand that my photography will be published as space is available and that no timetable is implied or promised.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

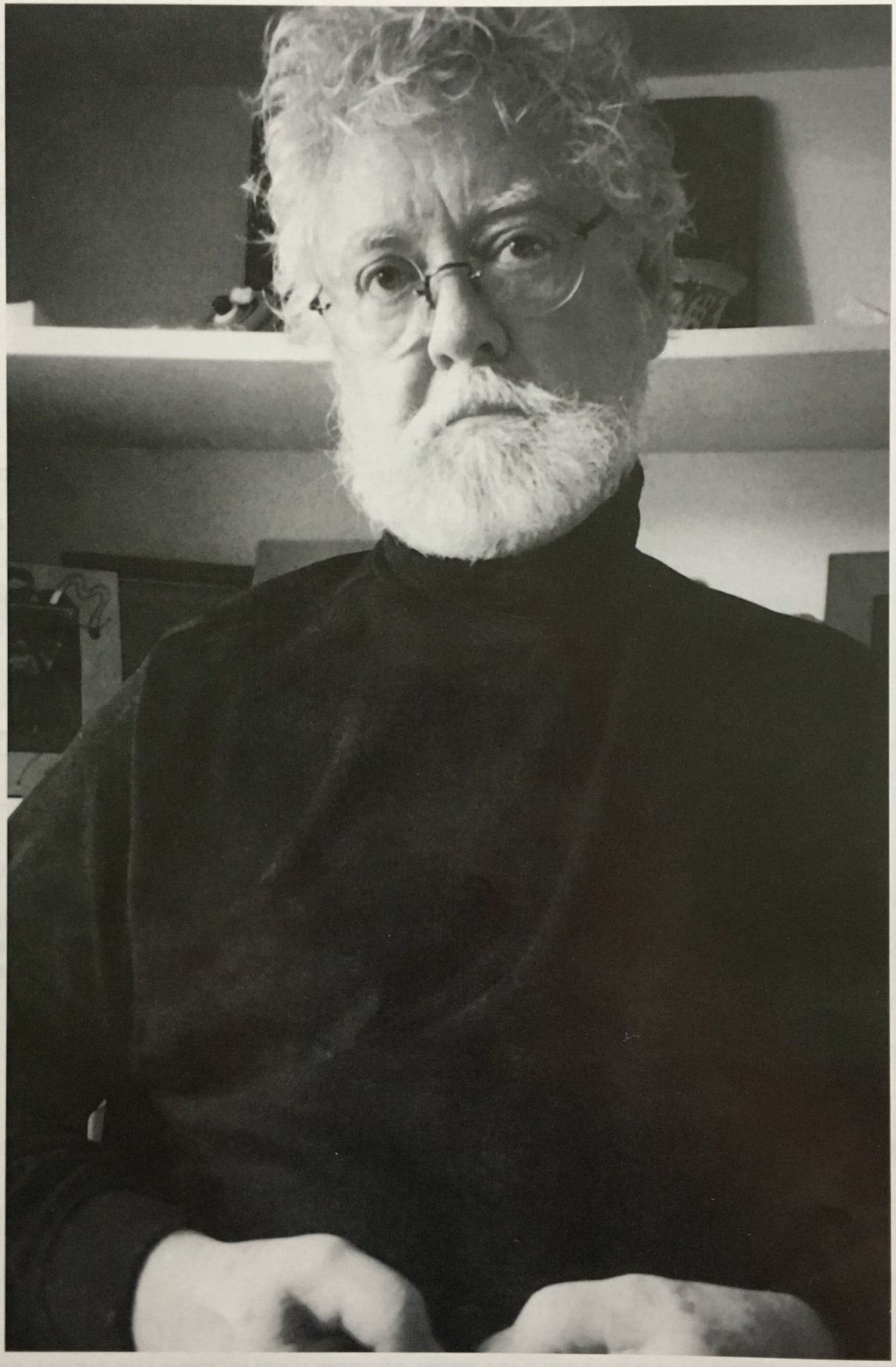
City/State/Zip: _____

Date: _____

Telephone number: (_____) _____

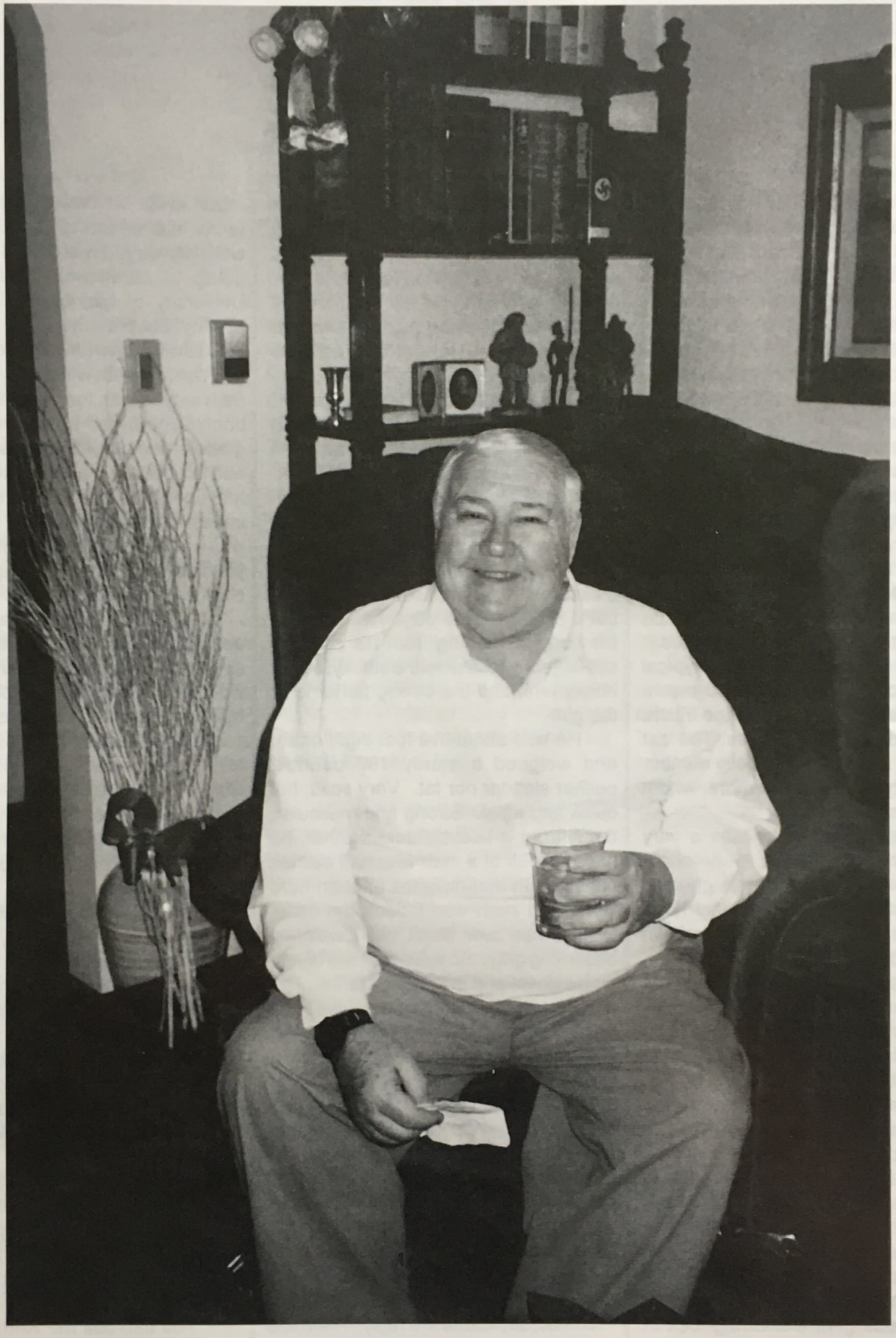
NOTE: SUBMIT PHOTOGRAPHY AND THIS RELEASE FORM, PROPERLY COMPLETED AND SIGNED TO CRPI.

MART



m. brodie

CHUBBY TOY



JAKE

By JED MUIR

Chief Mate Jake Stuart hurried along the pier, glancing at his watch to make certain he'd be back aboard ship in time to confer with the bosun about the day's work. The stevedores would soon be unloading the lumber the old freighter had brought to Manila from Seattle, while his own deck hands, under the bosun's effective supervision, would be engaged in the endless chipping, red-leading, and painting the old ship required.

The bow of the ship stood just ahead, resting easily in the water, the current gently slapping the sides of the great ship. Automatically, Jake's eyes checked the lines for tautness, then the placement of the fenders that kept the ship from scraping the dock, and finally, made sure the rat guards were still in place.

It had been one of those typical nights ashore. He'd drunk too much, told too many jokes, laughed too much, and danced too many dances. The last dance was a slow belly to belly number with a pretty little Filipino whore, whom he took upstairs.

At age fifty-five, Jake was a very robust man. He'd been a merchant seaman all his life, having first signed on with the McCormich Line as a deck hand at age seventeen. Through the years at sea, he had studied navigation, piloting, cargo storage, and all other pertinent subjects, and had, in turn, sat for his third, second, and first mate's papers. He was well-known and well-liked among the West Coast sailors as being honest and fair. He was a good man to sail for.

His sexual exploits with the waterfront prostitutes were well-known, too—even legendary—and sometimes he wondered about this. He had to admit he thoroughly enjoyed hearing about his fantastic sexual prowess. He even encouraged it—always very subtly, of course, with a slightly suggestive remark, a mischievous grin, a knowing look or nod of his head. He had developed all these clever little ways of getting his shipmates to wax profusely regarding his enormous sexual appetite and its subsequent satisfaction. He loved to hear about his reputation as a notorious whore-monger. Men pointed him out, talked about him, teased him, admired him. He was a man's man.

He scurried up the gangplank, already planning the day's work for the crew. Once in his quarters, he stripped down, wrapped a towel about his waist, and headed for the showers.

Standing naked under the stream of warm water, he indulged, almost wantonly, in one of his greatest pleasures: a warm, luxurious, sensual bath. Slowly and thoroughly, he lathered his body, scrubbing from his skin the still-lingering residue of the smoky, boozy honky-tonk and the strong perfume of the girl.

He was about five-foot-eight or so, and weighed a sturdy 180 pounds, neither slender nor fat. Very solid, but quick and agile. Strong and muscular, though not a bodybuilder. Rather, he had the look of a man who had earned his strength and muscles through hard work, and such was indeed the case. His hair had been black, but it was fast becoming gray. So were the tufts of hair on his chest and in the pubic area. The nipples of his breasts stood out like buds nestled in grayish moss, hard and erect from the languid strokes of his bathing. His application of soap to his cock and balls was not only done liberally, it was done boldly, even lovingly, with intent and purpose.

After drying himself off and dressing, he returned to the main deck just as a young Asian came aboard, baggage in hand, standing there looking around, trying to decide on his next move.

"Can I help you, son?" Jake asked.

"Yes, sir," came the reply. His voice was soft, but steady. "I'm supposed to report to Mr. Mathews, the steward. My father made arrangements for me to work my way to the United States. I'm going to study engineering at the University of Minnesota." He spoke politely, but proudly.

Jake told him how to reach the galley, and watched him walk away. The young man moved with the easy, lithe manner possessed by so many Oriental men: graceful and supple, yet masculine. Jake had noticed such a walk often in Japan, had openly admired it, had even tried to imitate it without success. Jake's walk was more like the conquering stride of a young Arnold Palmer making his famous charge on the golf course.

Just then, the bosun appeared on deck, coffee in hand, and the two men spent the next hour outlining the day's work for the crew, whereupon the mate headed for the bridge. In the passageway beneath the ladder leading to the officers' deck, a huge double-sink and work table had been installed, directly opposite the galley, and there amidst piles of potatoes, carrots, onions, and celery stood the young Asian, already at work.

Jake's surprise was obvious. "Put you to work already, did they?" he asked.

"Yes, they did," he answered, nodding emphatically, an exuberant smile attesting to his delight. "I'm glad. It's very nice. I want to do a good job." He stopped cleaning vegetables, gazed quizzically into Jake's eyes, still smiling, as though to say, *Look into my eyes. I want you to know me. What do you think?*

Jake shifted uneasily and became aware of a sudden fascination with the young man. "You'll do a good job, I'm sure," Jake managed to say, and headed up the ladder, then stopped. "I didn't ask you your name."

"You can call me Khu," the young man replied. "It's John Khu."

Jake considered the name. "Then you're not Filipino."

John shook his head, still smiling broadly. "Chinese. Hong Kong."

The big man nodded and felt inclined to return the John's brilliant smile. He nodded again and walked away, feeling slightly ambivalent.

The day's work went well. The crew was happy to be in port, where they would be working a regular eight hour day instead of standing sea watches. And, of course, they would be able to go ashore at night.

Jake, on the other hand, decided to have supper aboard ship to rest up from his wild night. He would do some reading and retire early.

Consequently, next morning he awoke completely rested, eager to start the day, and hungry as a bear. After a quick shower, he headed down to the officers' salon for breakfast. There again, under the mid-ship ladder, stood Khu. "Well, good morning," Jake exclaimed, pleased to see the boy. "You're at it early."

"Yes," Khu agreed, "it's my job." He, too, sounded pleased at the greeting. Jake assumed that no one had paid much attention to him, except to show him what had to be done.

"Last night, I again saw those vegetables you fixed yesterday," Jake said, grinning. "You know ... in the stew." He was feeling more at ease with the John, even daring to make eye-contact with the same eyes that had mesmerized and disturbed him the day before.

Jake groped for something else to say. "Seems I could stop by here every morning and find out what we're having for supper," he remarked. "Looks like eggplant tonight."

"Parmigiana," Khu acknowledged, giving Jake the distinct impression that he was relishing the attention.

"You're not going to make me fat, are you?" Jake teased.

"Wouldn't think of it," Khu replied. "You're just right the way you are."

Jake detected the sincerity in the young man's voice and felt a strange stirring in his pants. Again that feeling of ambivalence. "Thanks for the compliment," he managed to say.

There was another stirring in his groin, and he abruptly excused himself. He looked back and waved.

In the days that followed, Jake found himself going by the area where Khu worked more and more. No longer did a trip or two by John Khu's work station suffice. He went to the trouble of finding out where John's quarters were and who his bunk mate was. He wondered if they liked each other and were friends. He took to wandering about the vessel, seeking the boy out to talk to him or just to see him or be near to him. Walking past the fo'c'sle he shared with the messboy, he would see Khu lying on his bunk, reading. Sometimes, he'd see him playing checkers in the mess hall with another sailor, and feel envious. Once, upon seeing Khu returning from the shower, a towel about his waist, the sight of the nearly nude body caused much more than just a stirring in his groin.

The thought occurred to Jake that he was acting like he had a crush on the young man, but he quickly passed it off as fatherly concern. The erection notwithstanding (unrelated, obviously), he conceded that he had decided to be the young man's father figure and mentor. The rationalization managed to hold his growing anxiety at bay.

Jake still went ashore, but only occasionally, and it was different somehow. Thoughts of Khu, back on board the ship would suddenly and unexplainably flash through his mind. He wondered if Khu had ever had sex with a woman, and if so, how old had he been? How had it come about? He even entertained the idea of inviting Khu to come ashore with him, and getting him a girl. This lead to an even more pleasant thought—that of the two of them sharing a cute young whore. He began to fantasize, especially at night in his bunk, about Khu and him, bare-assed together, with some tempting prostitute. Scene after scene played in his head, each more vivid and erotic than the last, and always, it was John's naked body that held center stage, not the prostitute's.

During the work day, however, there was enough truth in the "father-mentor-friend" feelings that he was able to keep their conversations on a platonic level, but he did feel that something had to happen, and he searched his mind for an answer: something more the two could share. Then, he remembered how much the boy liked to read, and, at the same time, how many books he himself owned. It was going to be a long voyage to San Francisco, and the idea of sharing his books with his shipmate appealed to him greatly, and naturally, the young fellow was thrilled to be invited to Jake's cabin.

When Khu arrived, he brought a tray of pastries from the galley, some of which he had prepared himself. Jake, who was in a receptive mood, was most impressed, even willing to try the tea his guest had brought along to go with the cakes. "You've been really nice to me since I came aboard," Khu explained.

Jake's response was sincere, "That's because I like you. You work hard, and you're eager to make something of yourself."

Khu became serious. "I like you, too," he admitted. He hesitated a moment, then added, "I like you too much."

Unable to handle the comment, Jake merely smiled and patted John on the shoulder. "It's impossible to like someone too much, my boy. I'm glad that we've become such good friends." Detecting the look of frustration in John's eyes, he quickly turned to the books.

They discussed books they had both read, and as the evening wore on, Khu spoke of life with his parents and sister in Hong Kong, and how proud they were that he was off to the States to become an engineer. Jake recounted much of his own life, sailing all over the world. They even managed a few games of checkers before Khu decided it was time to go. As he stood by the door, Jake handed him the books he had chosen to borrow and put his arm around the grateful galley-hand's shoulder. "See you tomorrow."

Khu nodded and disappeared onto the dark deck.

It was getting late. Jake puttered around the cabin for a few minutes then went to bed. As he was drifting off, he replayed in his mind Khu's comment: "I like you too much." It felt good to remember, and soon he had drifted off to

sleep.

Someone was softly calling his name. Upon opening his eyes, he saw Khu standing there. He raised up on one elbow. "Khu," he muttered, "what is it?"

"I'm sorry, Jake," Khu said just above a whisper. "I tried to sleep but couldn't. I know it's late, but could we talk some more?"

"Yes, of course we can." Jake was concerned. He slid his body over against the bulkhead, half-sitting up, and motioned for John to sit beside him on the edge of the bunk. Moonlight streamed through the open porthole, so he could see his young friend quite clearly. He saw that Khu was dressed in a white robe, which was open past the navel. Jake felt a twinge of excitement. *Oh, my God,* he thought, *this can't be happening.* He took in the sight of the young man's naked chest and belly, the pale golden skin, the dark brown nipples of his breasts, and the slender young waist. Jake's cock, hidden under a thin sheet, hardened. His very first thought was to hope that his midnight visitor wouldn't see it. His very next thought was to hope he would. In spite of being so aroused, he still wanted to help his distraught friend. "We can talk as long as you want, about anything you want."

"Do you remember ..." Khu's voice was quiet, but determined, "...telling me that you would still like me no matter what?"

"You bet I would." Jake was quick to respond.

"Maybe not," countered John, again moving closer and widening the gap in the robe even further, exposing more bare skin, including the tip of a very erect penis.

Before Khu could continue his obviously painful and terrifying expedition, First Mate Jacob Turner Stuart, whore-monger, cocksman and pussy lover, slid his hands through the opening in the robe, separating it even wider with his elbows. Gently, he grasped John at the waist, and stared straight into his eyes. Khu returned the look and sighed.

Jake's mind began to reel as he was assaulted with conflicting emotions. His cock ached until it felt like it would explode. He felt something akin to being pushed off a thousand-foot cliff, only to find that he had wings and could fly.

The mate let his gaze wander down the young man's body

"Look at your hard-on," he whispered. "Look how beautiful it is! Like you!"

Jake had never touched another man's penis before. He eyed it closely, touched it tentatively, then grasped it firmly in his hand, whereupon a feeling of supreme joy surged through him, so wonderfully exciting that it was as though, without really knowing it, he had wanted this thing—this moment—all his life. *How can that be?* he wondered. Then, *What does it matter?*

"I'm going to make love to you, John," he whispered.

He slipped off John's robe, realizing fully that things would never be the same again. Slowly, he lowered his head to get his very first taste, ever, of a man's cock.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK YOU'RE HAVING A HEART ATTACK

A lot of people just sit there and hope it's heartburn. That's called "denial," and denial can kill you.

The pain associated with a heart attack may slip up on you, or it may hit like a bolt of lightening. Maybe it's a crushing sensation in your chest. Pain radiates up your neck and/or over your shoulders and/or down your arms. Maybe it doesn't. Perhaps you can't catch your breath and your skin feels clammy, and/or you feel like throwing up and/or passing out, and/or you're dripping with sweat.

What should you do?

GET HELP: If you are alone, call 9-1-1 and get the ball rolling. The sooner you get the blood clot cleared in your heart, the better your chance of survival, or even full recovery. If you are not alone and can get someone to drive you to a hospital in less time than it takes an ambulance to get to your home, then go. If in doubt, wait for the ambulance, because paramedics will have available all kinds of things to keep you alive.

HELP YOURSELF: Calmly make an entryway for the paramedics by opening doors and turning on lights, etc. Chew an uncoated 325 mg aspirin tablet and let it swirl underneath your tongue. This will get a very potent anti-clotting agent into your bloodstream as fast as possible.

DON'T LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS: If you start to feel faint, lie back to get more blood to your brain. If you still feel faint, start coughing hard every one to three seconds and don't stop until the paramedics get there. Coughing provides an alternative to CPR and helps keep your heart beating.

ADVISE THE PARAMEDICS: If you are taking Viagra, tell the paramedics. If they give you any nitrate-containing heart drug, it could kill you by dramatically lowering your blood pressure. Make sure you give them an accurate account of the medications you are taking. Better still, keep a list and place it in your wallet.

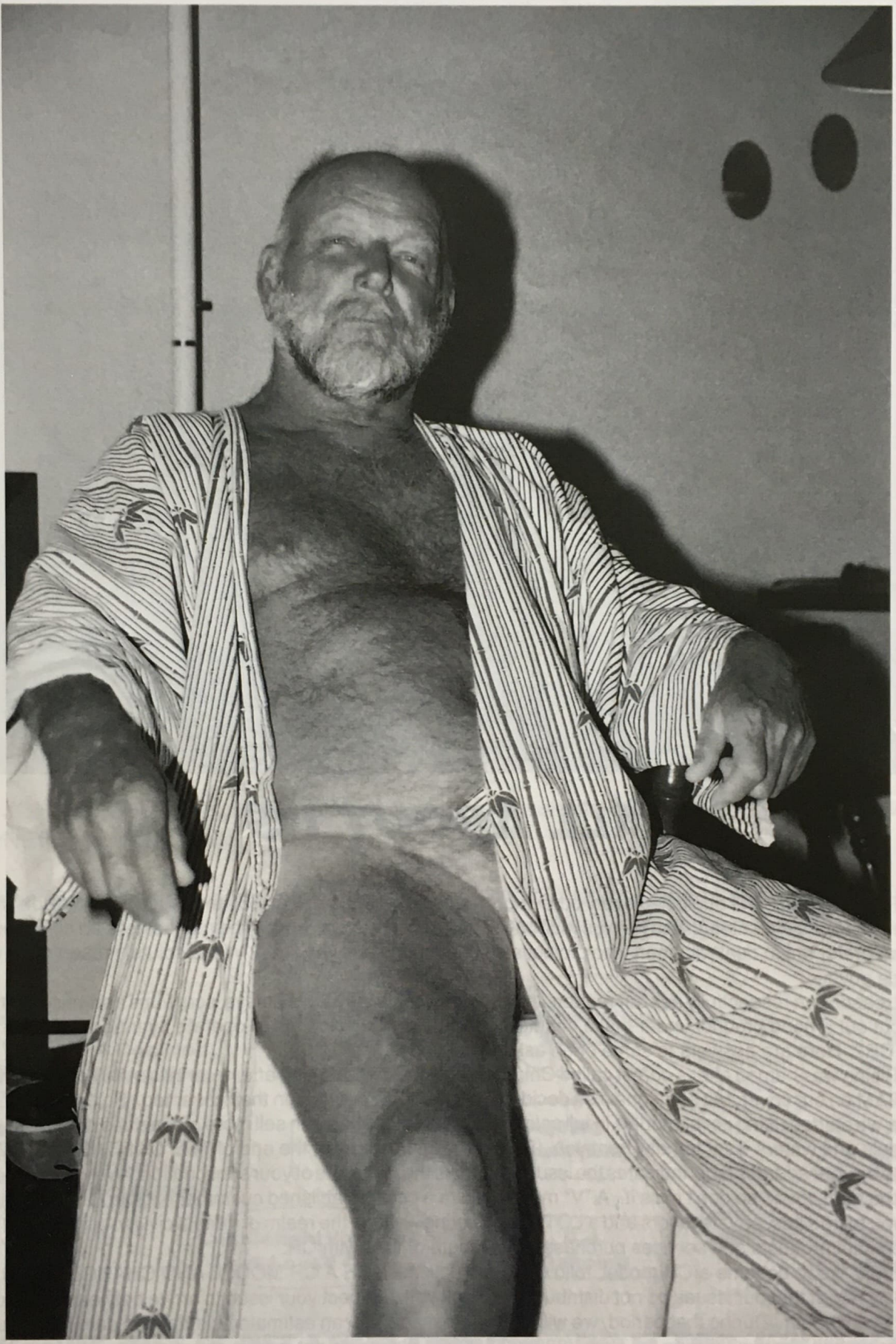
IN THE ER: Try to be calm. You're in the best of hands with most ER staffs. (It's the treatment upstairs you have to worry about.) Answer all the questions, even though it will seem like everyone is asking you the same questions. If they want to give you TPA, a drug designed to dissolve blood clots, they will probably warn you of the danger of bleeding in the brain. Remain calm and remember that your heart is your first priority. If they want to do open-heart surgery to save your life, a second opinion might not be convenient.

ICU: If you get here, then the ER team has probably been able to stabilize you. Get a cardiologist assigned to you right away. Studies indicate that patients under the care of cardiologists fare better.

TREATMENT: With a cardiologist in your corner, you now have a second opinion in case a thoracic surgeon wants to do a bypass. Studies indicate that too many bypass surgeries are not necessary. But whatever happens, consider this close call a warning to make some changes in your life-style. Play your cards right, and you can extend your life considerably. Slipping back into denial, however, will only lead you back to the ER. And next time you might not be so lucky.

B.A. VAUGHAN

SMITY



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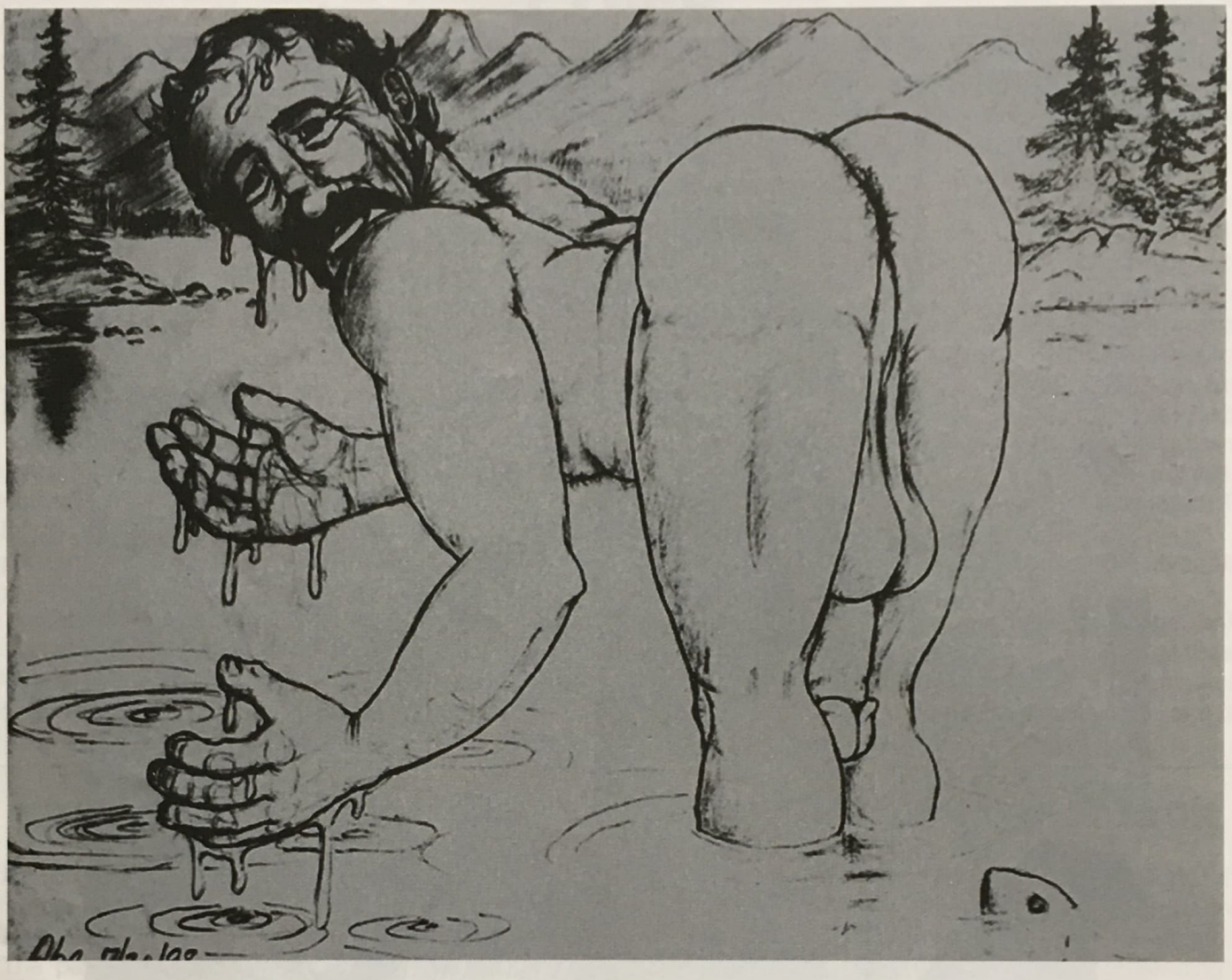


ALL ABOUT US

Chiron Rising Magazine is published every other month on even months by Pat, 58, and Bruce, 78. We don't have a staff, but we have occasional volunteers who help us mail out issues and do clerical work. The magazine is an all-consuming labor of love, so we prefer not to deal with men who project severe attitudes and yell at us. We absolutely reserve the right to deal only with nice guys.

For that reason, we respectfully ask our readers to be tolerant of the inevitable delays, screwups and miscommunications. In order to put out a good product under these conditions, we have no choice but to operate by triage.

New to CR? Here are answers to some often asked questions:

Chiron Rising was named after a comet called Chiron. The comet was named after a centaur. We used to have a centaur created by RAM on our cover, but someone else decided they wanted a centaur on their cover too. So, instead of playing that stupid game, we started using cover models in full color. Good-looking older men sell more magazines than centaurs anyway.

CR models and writers want to hear from you. Follow the instructions at the end of THE CONTACT NETWORK.

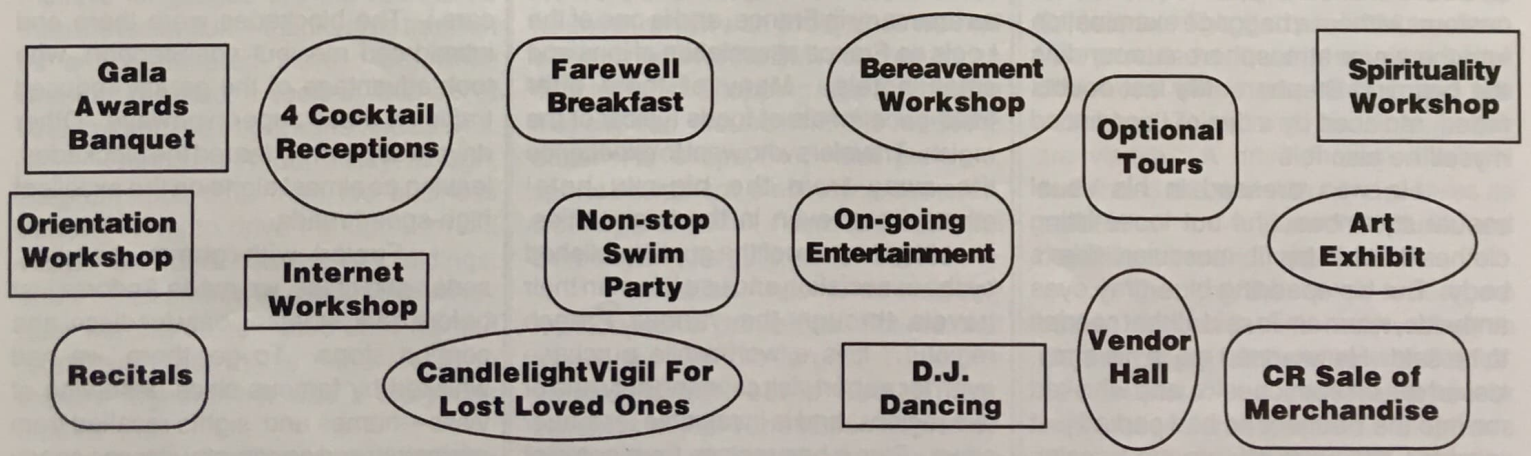
The code on your address label indicates the issue number of the last issue of your subscription. We will include a reminder note inside the front cover, so don't miss it. A "V" means you're a cool, established customer eligible for pampering. A V2 or V3 entitles you to free ads, private favors and a LOT of pampering—within the realm of mutual civility, of course. These codes are based on total products and services purchased, not length of time with CR.

If you would like to become a CR model, follow the instructions in BE A CR MODEL AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

We deeply regret that our issues do not distribute like clockwork. Expect your issue to arrive between the middle and the end of each even month. During that period, we will post a message with an estimated distribution date of the current issue. The message can be heard by dialing toll-free: (888) 227-2935. Please do not inquire about an issue's status by calling our (760) number or by e-mail. We cannot field such a flood of inquiries.

GATHERING 99 IN ORLANDO
may 27 through 31
THE RENAISSANCE

you asked	so we
That we limit the event meals and lower our price.	Cut out all but one meal and reduced our price by 38%.
For less professional entertainment and more CR family talent.	Cut out the pros and opted for the Slut Patrol (D.J. Dancing) and Kookaburra (Cabaret).
For more free time to go on optional tours.	We're looking for a coordinator.
For an orientation meeting for first-time attendees and shy types.	Will have one hosted by Mr. CR Gathering himself, PAPA BEAR, and all the staff.
For a REAL welcome reception, where all the staff are introduced and a delegate can easily find and meet guys from his city or region.	Will have areas in the ballroom layed out according to cities and regions and identified with banners.
For better munchies during the cocktail parties.	Have upgraded accordingly.
For more JOHN KILPATRICK, PAPA BEAR, JOHN McNEILL, and DR. TAN.	Have asked all to do two workshops instead of one.
For better badges that won't come off so easily.	Will exclude wrist bands and use heavy duty badges that go around the neck.



YOU'VE PUT IT OFF LONG ENOUGH. DO IT FOR *YOURSELF*

Paris (and Spain) in the Fall (and Spring)
by Holling Thomas

We all hear about Paris in the Spring, as the management trainers say, but what about the fall? And the sunny coast of Spain? Check it out!

As the plane landed at Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris, my emotions went into rapid-toggle mode between fear and eager excitement. I was excited that I would soon see my handsome young Stephan, but fearful that we had committed ourselves to three weeks together on the basis of three days' acquaintance.

My vacation of a lifetime had its start, as do so many memorable things, at a CR Gathering (Orlando 97). That was wonderful, and spending almost all the time with Stephan, who is less than half my age, added everything to a great gathering. And far from our friendship ending, as I expected, with the closing breakfast, as soon as I got home from Florida my e-mail began filling with wonderful, loving messages, and by the end of June I had an invitation to visit Stephan in Paris at the end of October. Now I was taking advantage of the super low fall airfares and was about to begin that visit, and I was sure I had made a mistake. Sure, that is, until I saw Stephan again. My worries about being down and out in Paris disappeared as I exited customs without a baggage examination into the warm atmosphere surrounding the beaming Stephan. My last doubts faded, replaced by a desire I convinced myself he also felt.

He was dressed in his usual casual style: beautiful but loose-fitting clothes that hid his fit, muscular, skier's body. But his sparkling blue-gray eyes and wide, warm smile said all that needed to be said. He wrapped me in his arms, kissed me on both cheeks, and whisked me into the Peugeot he had parked just outside. We were off into the freezing French countryside! When, a few miles later, my stomach made an embarrassingly loud rumble, I confessed that the Delta croissant was dry and inedible. Quickly, Stephan stopped, dashed across the street to a *boulangerie*, and returned with four croissants—one chocolate, one plain, two for each of us to eat in the car. They were the best, made even better by the caring way they were delivered, a caring that would be evident every day for the next three weeks.

Home to Stephan, and, briefly, to me, was a restored twelfth-century building in a village north of Paris, surrounded by acres of lawns and gardens. My handsome host had arranged a welcome dinner just for the two of us of a huge styrofoam boat filled with *fruits de mer*. Oysters, shrimp, mussels and other shellfish, and excellent French champagne. All of the shellfish did their job, and the sensuous evening that followed more than fulfilled all my dreams.

We stayed through Halloween and attended a wonderful French Halloween party, staged as the patron imagined such an American party would be. Excellent wines, marvelous foods, exquisite desserts made it clear this was no bob-for-apples event, and a costume contest added the right ending to the evening.

The restaurant is in a small inn, as are many in France, and is one of the Logis de France association of inns and small hotels. Many of them offer fixed-price meals of foods typical of the region. Travelers who want to experience life away from the big-city hotel atmosphere, even in the larger cities, should get a copy of the guide published by the association and use it to plan their travels through the various French regions. It is a worthwhile purchase even for a short visit covering only one or two regions, and is invaluable for longer stays. Plus it has recipes from some of the best of the kitchens of the member inns.

My stay in this beautiful house was short, because Stephan had urgent business in Andorra, that tiny republic in the Pyrenees Mountains between France and Spain. Come Monday we were off in his luxurious new BMW. First to Paris to visit a bank, a trip made brighter by Stephan's pointing out the sights and talking about the Paris that tourists do not see. Then, up on the sidewalk for illegal Parisian-style parking while he dashed to change some money. No sooner was he out of sight than a tall, very handsome, blond Paris *gendarme* was at the front of the car with a book of tickets in his hand. I watched him as he peered over the BMW into the distance. My nervousness grew, as did my excitement at the possibilities, and I finally moved to get out of the car as his steel gray eyes caught mine. But he waved me back into the car, where I continued to feast my eyes on him until he strode off. Then Stephan reappeared, and we were on our way.

Daringly, my host had decided we would leave for Andorra despite truckers' strikes and threatened blockades of the toll roads we would be using. (This decision taken after social visits the previous evening from officials of the European Community and the French Ministry of Defense who agreed the truckers would not block passenger cars.) The blockades were there and intimidated me, but not Stephan, who took advantage of the greatly reduced traffic on these super highways. Other drivers apparently feared the blockades, leaving us almost alone on the excellent high-speed roads.

Fueled with gummi candies, sodas and chips, we made Andorra just before dark, stopping only for diesel and comfort stops. To get there, we had whisked by famous cities deserving of visits—names and sights recalled from my history and geography classes nearly 60 years past. They will wait for another visit.

By the time we arrived in Andorra,

the hotel Stephan had chosen was full, so we checked into the Andorra Center Hotel and went for dinner at Don Pernil. The fantastic meal of dry cured ham, wonderful beef, excellent Spanish wines and generous amounts of after-dinner digestives, or liqueurs, inspired Stephan to such great achievements in our hotel room that we had to sleep until well past dawn the next morning.

Stephan was disappointed that the hotel he'd reserved for us four months earlier was not available, so after breakfast we moved to the five-star Hotel Plaza. Because Stephan is a regular and good customer, he arranged a beautiful room for two, *demi-pension* (buffet breakfast and either lunch or dinner) at $94 per day! He was to be busy most of the day with paperwork and appointments, which gave me time to become better acquainted with Andorra, a place well worth visiting for its position in the Pyrenees and its duty-free status which allows for great bargains in perfumes, clothing, liquor, wines and other items.

I had prepared myself poorly for my European adventure. I was equipped only with a 1927 travel book on Europe that informed readers that Paris to Amsterdam takes 13 hours by train and that French hotels do not furnish soap. The Internet was much more helpful, especially Foreign Languages for Travelers (http://www.travelang.com/languages), but I had not spent enough time with this excellent tool, easy though it was to do. Fortunately, English is a very common second language in Europe, and especially in Andorra, where multiple languages are the rule rather than the exception—thanks to its tradition as a tax-sheltered state. So, while Stephan worked, I took in the air of Andorra and the bright sunshine as well.

During our Andorra stay, though, Stephan took time from his business appointments to drive me up to an old village of stone houses, outbuildings, and a small church in a mountain valley near the city, a romantic spot he had found and kept in his mind for us to explore together. It was a storybook time for me!

Soon my host and I were relaxing with a drink and a bath together in the outsized marble tub. Later, at Borda Estevet for dinner, again: excellent beef, dry-cured ham and sausages, preceded by *Pa am Tomaquet*, a bruschetta-like toast rubbed with half a garlic clove, then with a tomato half so bits of the garlic and of the tomato's flesh are picked up by the toast. A drizzle of olive oil and a bit of coarse sea salt completes the presentation. The taste was superb (the process was recently described in *Cook's Illustrated* magazine), but watching the handsome young Stephan lovingly and expertly preparing it for me no doubt improved the taste!

A showroom full of luxury automobiles, from Rolls Royce down, took up part of the next day, as we searched for a headlamp for the BMW. Because of its tax-haven status, Andorrans buy some of the best cars made; we were told that 300 buyers are on the waiting list for Mercedes models. We preceded our trip to the auto showroom with the hotel's bountiful breakfast buffet, and after the autos, their excellent four-course lunch, which includes a bottle of wine. Dinner followed much later, about 10 p.m., at El Bon Raco, one of Andorra's best-known restaurants. Dozens of smaller snails—I think we counted 71—make up an order there, and they were preceded by an aperitif from the house, followed by cured meats. The next course of beef cooked on an open grill in the style common to Andorra was superb.

While we were at Andorra la Vella, which some call the world's largest discount mall, heavy rains came, temporarily separating us. Stephen feared that I had become lost. Reunited, we were thankful as well that there was no snow, which was good, since we had left the chains for the BMW on the kitchen floor in Paris! Shopping is so fantastic in that city that I found it hard to resist the dozens of shops filled with perfume, sports equipment, electronics, cameras, clothing—and I fell victim to a beautiful Burberry argyle pullover for $85.00.

As we left Andorra the next day we stopped for provisions. For me, that meant the world's largest Toblerone chocolate bar, some Scotch, and excellent Miguel Torres Spanish brandy. Stephan bought much more, both for his family in Pamplona and to restock the house in Paris.

The drive to Barcelona was breathtaking, and we again passed near cities and places I had only read about, such as the historic monastery at Monserrat, tucked into its hillside and very easily seen from the road. When we arrived, we checked into the Comte de Barcelona, a luxury hotel formed from two remodeled palaces across the street from each other. Situated perfectly on the Passeig de Gracia (ask for Room 404), it provides an ideal place to stand on the balcony, pretend to take pictures, and watch the gorgeous men walking below. One caution: dogs are much loved, and they are walked on the sidewalk. Use care in choosing your steps when you decide to leave your balcony and join the walkers on the sidewalk below! After check-in and getting very personally reacquainted with each other, Stephan took me to dinner at Restaurant Llevatapas, at the water's edge. We had delicious sea bass baked in rock salt, then Stephan went out to disco with friends until 7 a.m. On his return, it is fair understatement to say our lovemaking was wild and passionate.

We explored Barcelona, the world-famous street called the Ramblas, the market, the shops, and then joined Tiffany, an American beauty who grew up in Alicante Spain and is fluent in Spanish, French, German and Italian, as well as English. We took lunch of *tapas* (small snack sandwiches, meats and the like), wine, beer and cider at a Basque bar, the Taverna Vasca Irati, followed by coffee and *postres* (dessert) at a coffee house nearby.

After we dropped Tiffany at her work, Stephan showed me more of Barcelona. The Parque Guell by Joan Miró provided a beautiful overlook of the city, from which the harbor and the unfinished Temple of the Holy Family are visible. A drive through this city convinced me that it richly deserves its reputation for fine architecture and beautiful surroundings.

Then to the hotel, where we busied ourselves with each other in another big marble bathtub, with Scotch, newspapers, a camera and our imaginations until time to join Stephan's friends for an early (by Spanish standards) dinner in their home at 9:30. These wonderful men have been

together for nearly 30 years, and their beautiful relationship is apparent in their home, their self-esteem and their openness. After dinner, one of them took us to Tatu, a disco for mature men and their admirers, where a flamenco set was the highlight (added to the lovely men in the room), with men who took their dancing seriously, as it is meant to be. I watched, and to my satisfaction, was watched and approached, though Stephan, acting as *el dinero*, safeguarded me; in truth, I was happy to be only with him. Disco music replaced the flamenco, and after five gin and tonics even I started dancing.

At about three in the morning we returned to the hotel and again fell into each others' arms to make love before sleeping until time to meet our hosts of the evening before. They were waiting on the street near their home to show us the site of the Olympic games, the national palace grounds, the military museum with its fabled views, and then the waterfront itself.

By that time, at 2:30 p.m., it was time for a lunch of meat and sausage followed by an incredibly huge paella and plenty of wine. We followed lunch with a walk down the boardwalk to the new Ritz-Carlton, the Hotel Arts Barcelona, where we had brandy and coffee. Then, as dusk fell, we began a slow, lovely drive to Sitges, a beautiful seaside resort popular with gay men of all ages from throughout Europe and beyond. As the light faded, it was an unbelievably beautiful drive along the national road by the sea, our hands touching lightly, then firmly, then caressingly. A night to remember, indeed.

In Sitges, as in Barcelona, the weather was warm, the sea blue, and the Callipolis Hotel balcony was a perfect place for Stephan to sun himself nude in the doorway, just out of sight of beach walkers. That was enough for me to be content just to stay in the room, but at Stephan's urging we saw the town. Though the famous Bar Lord was closed, and is no longer gay at any rate, we stopped at several smaller places where we were welcomed and met a number of very interesting men. November, despite its excellent weather during our visit, is the slowest month of the year in Sitges, so those craving more action should visit at other times. It was perfect for us, but we could not stay, so we were off to Pamplona the next day, where Stephan was overdue.

Despite his schedule pressure, he wanted me to see the famous cathedral Del Pilar in Zaragoza, so we stopped for a quick tour of this treasured building with its wood carvings and Goya and Velasquez paintings decorating the ceilings. After a quick sandwich across the square from the cathedral, we were on our way again.

Pamplona is the area where Stephan grew up, so we saw all his haunts from boyhood through his early adult years, and I met his wonderful family and his boyhood friend, Angel, who joined us for my touristic view of the city, including the famous street of the running of the bulls, the arena, and the cathedral with its rich treasury and huge bell. We stayed with Pergen, one of Stephan's many friends, a handsome older Spanish gentleman, and a wonderful cook and host. His hospitality and friendship made a high point in our Pamplona stay.

Fortunately, I had saved my hair, which by now was badly in need of what turned out to be the best haircut of my life. Antonio, at Peluqueria A&A, c/ Guelbenzu 21, who has cut Stephan's hair for many years, is worth a trip to Pamplona by himself.

There is more than the good-looking, competent Antonio to warrant a visit there, of course. The city has much beauty and more fine restaurants, including one specializing in roast suckling pig, Asador Olaverri, at C/Santa Maria 4. Tapas in the bars were many, varied, and excellent, too. The array of foods and the variety of tastes in Spanish eateries left me speechless, and considerably heavier, though the absence of butter, the presence of olive oil, and lots of exercise had lowered my cholesterol count by the time I returned to the U.S. At any rate, Stephan had quickly helped me acquire a taste for octopus, prepared with oil and paprika, and for other typical foods of the regions we visited.

The time in Pamplona passed too quickly, and we had to hurry back to Paris along highways that passed through vineyards and past historic France, all of which would have to wait for another visit. And there have been two such since, spring and fall, and Stephan has visited me in the U.S. three times, as well, but nothing will ever replace the wonderful memories of this first visit to Paris —and Spain—in the fall.

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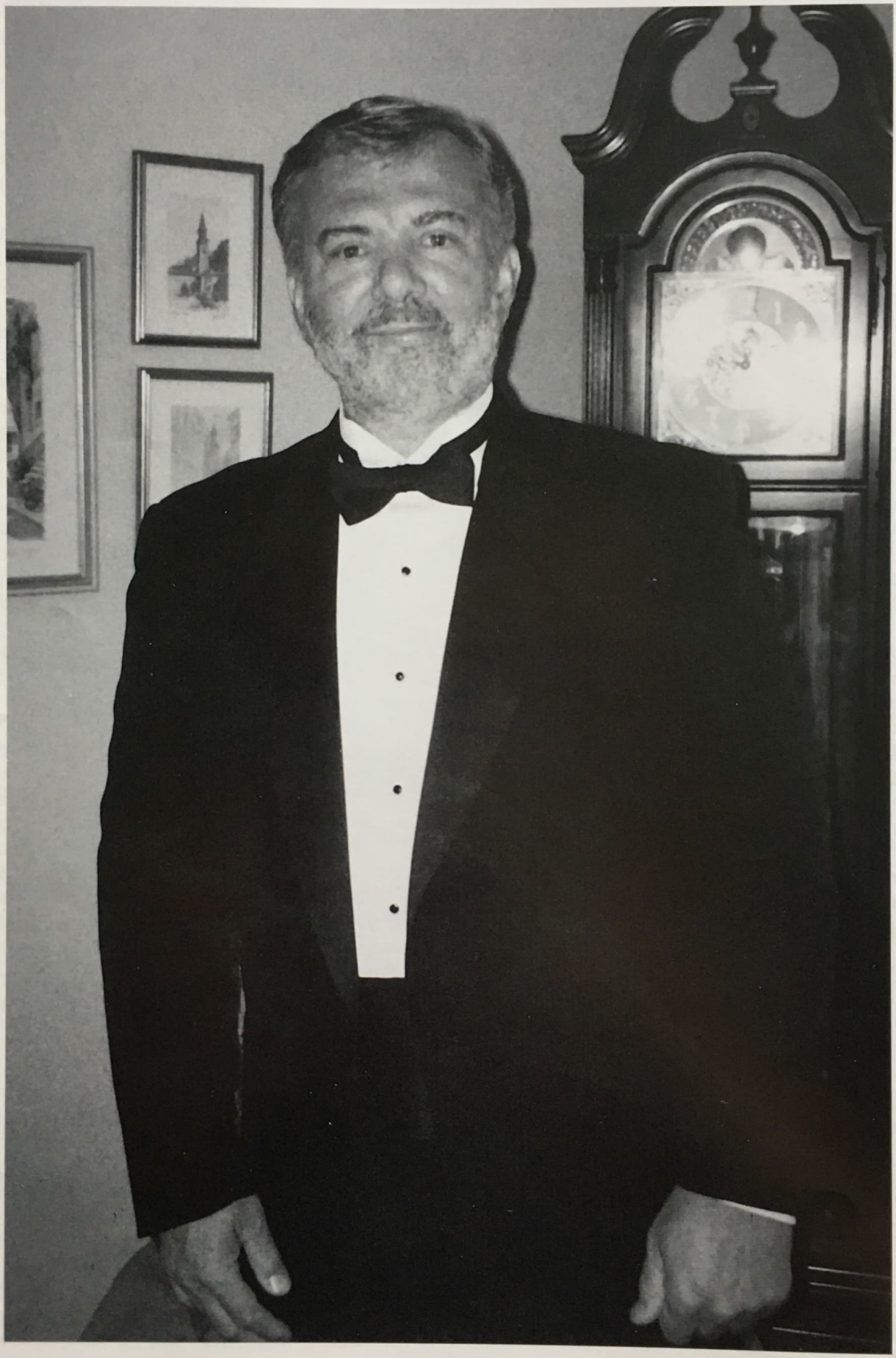

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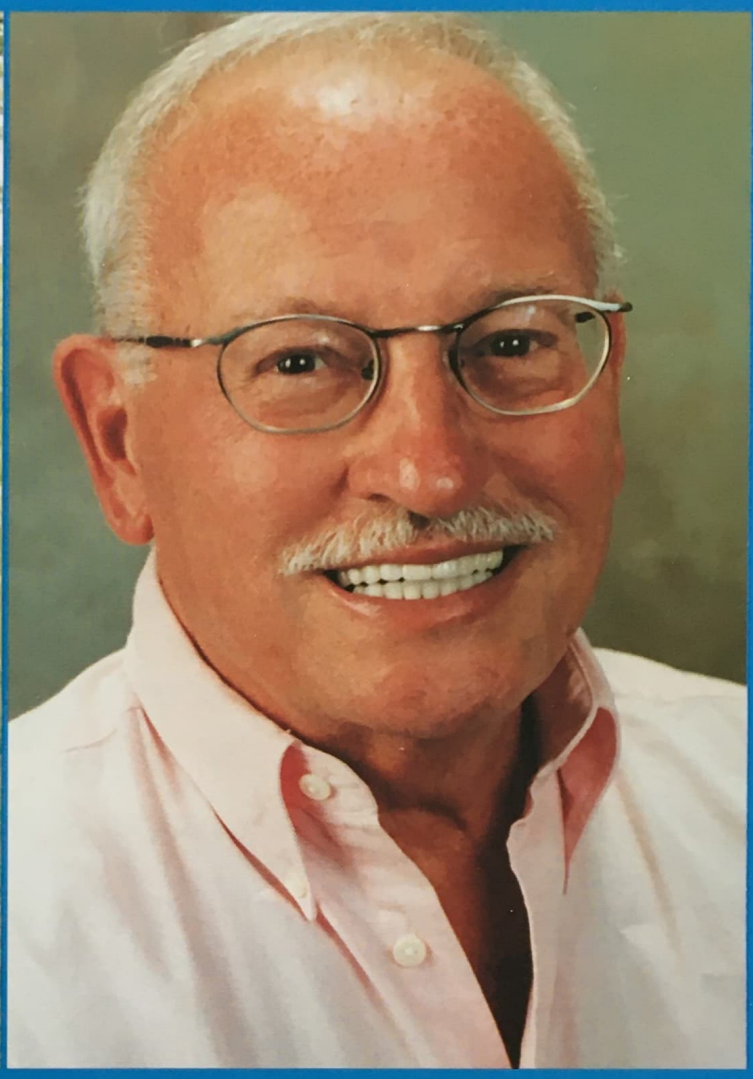

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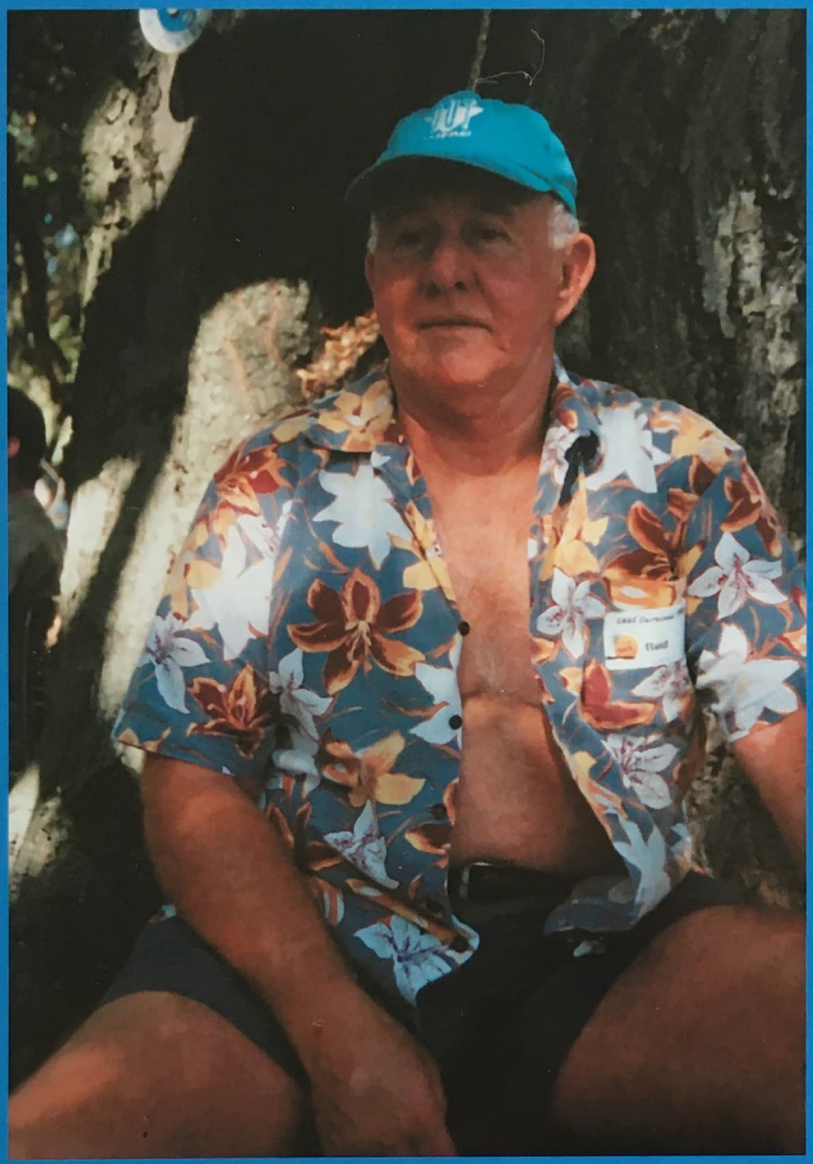
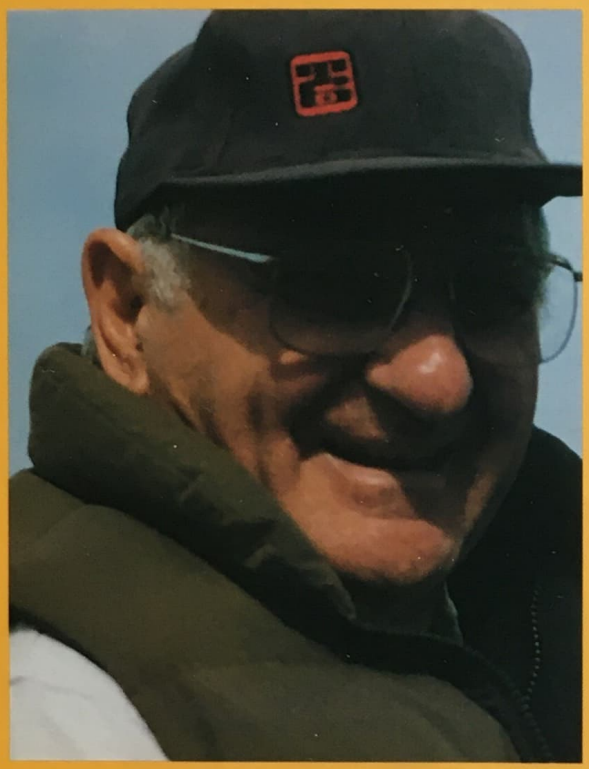
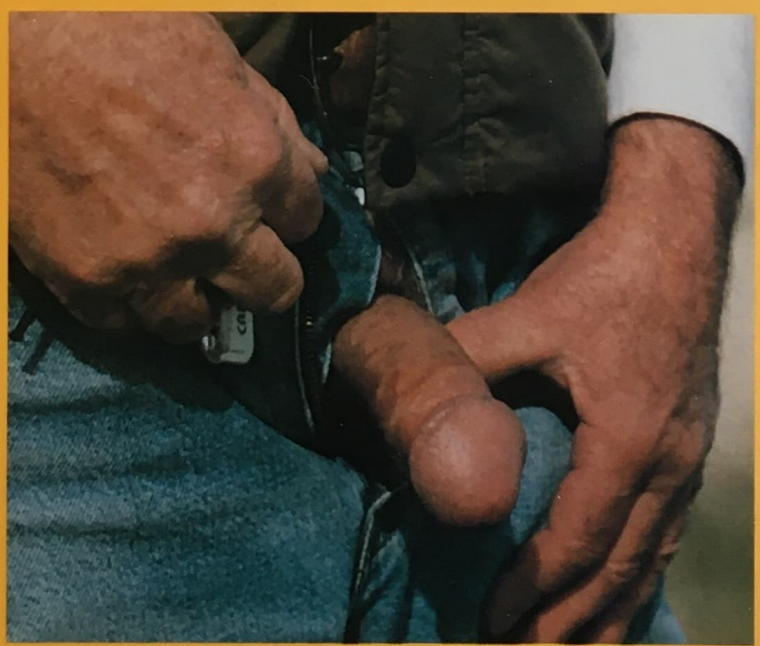


INDIANA COLT john

BILL & RICHARD

photos by Benjamin





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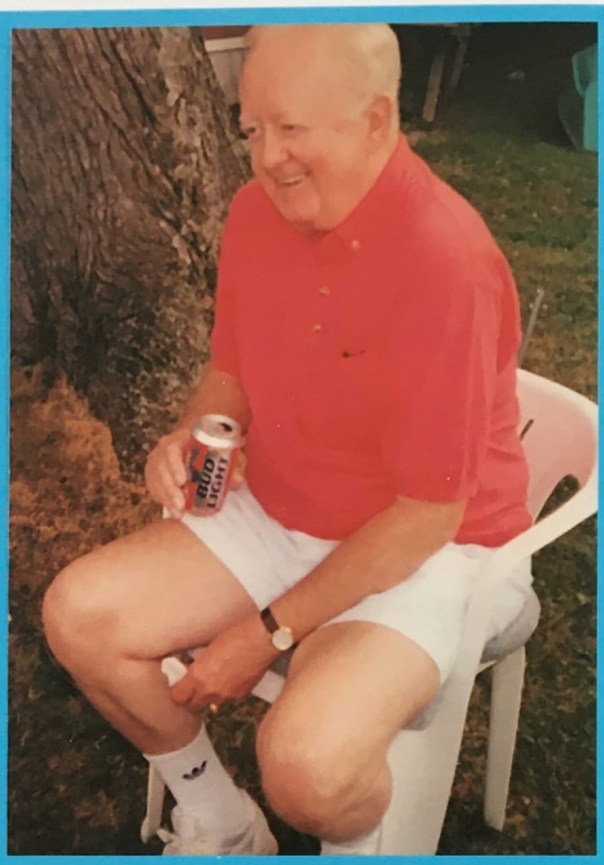

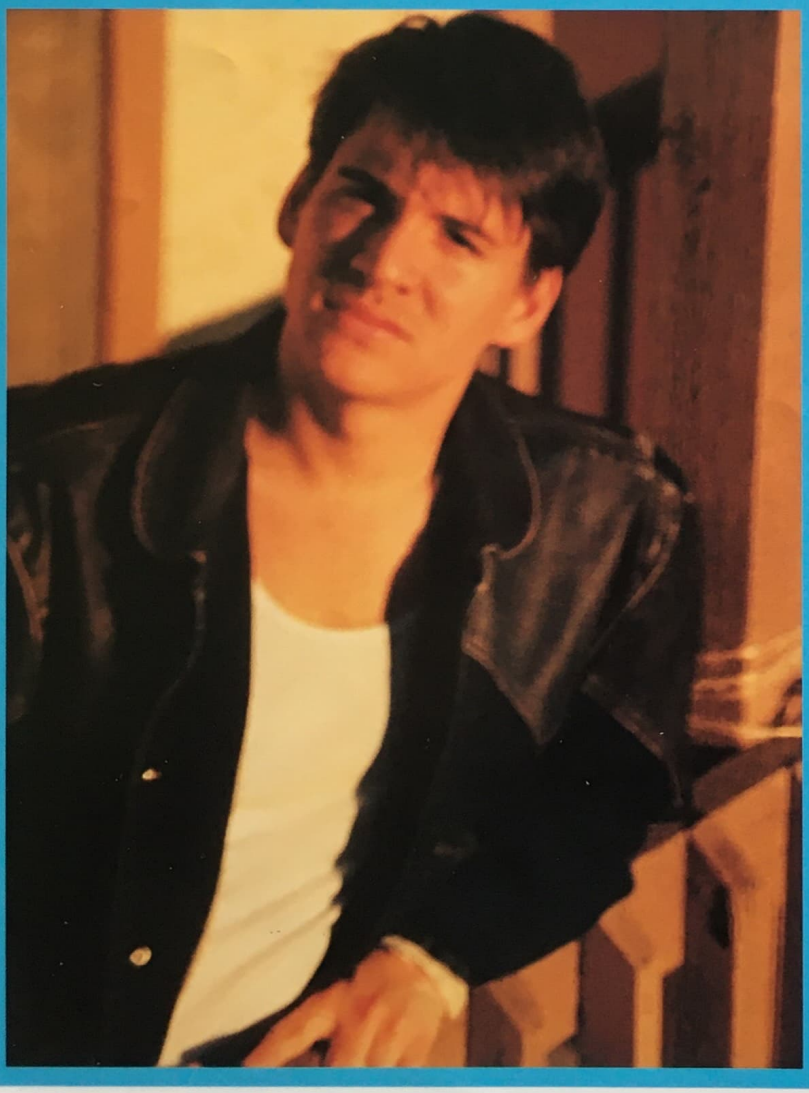

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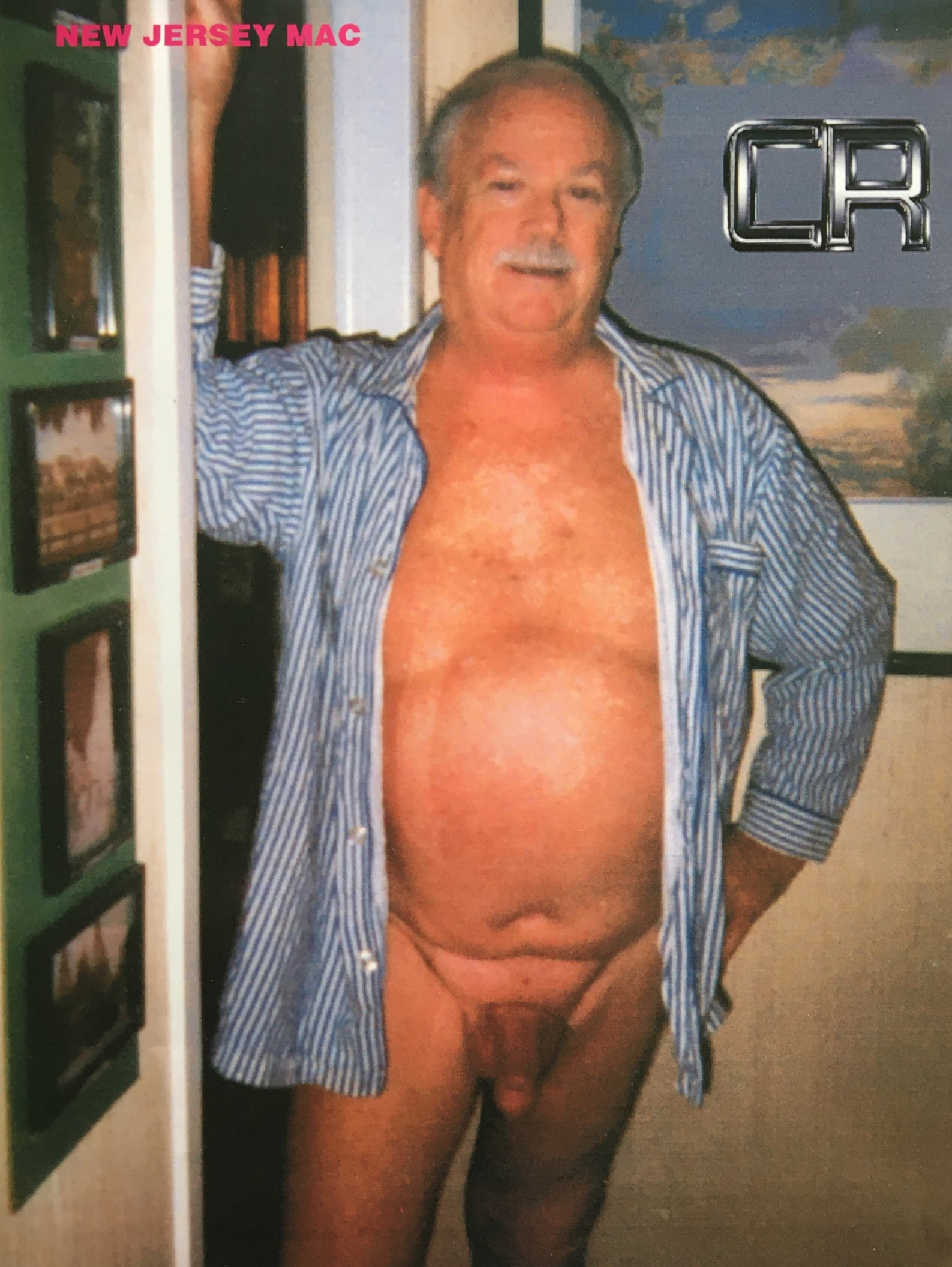

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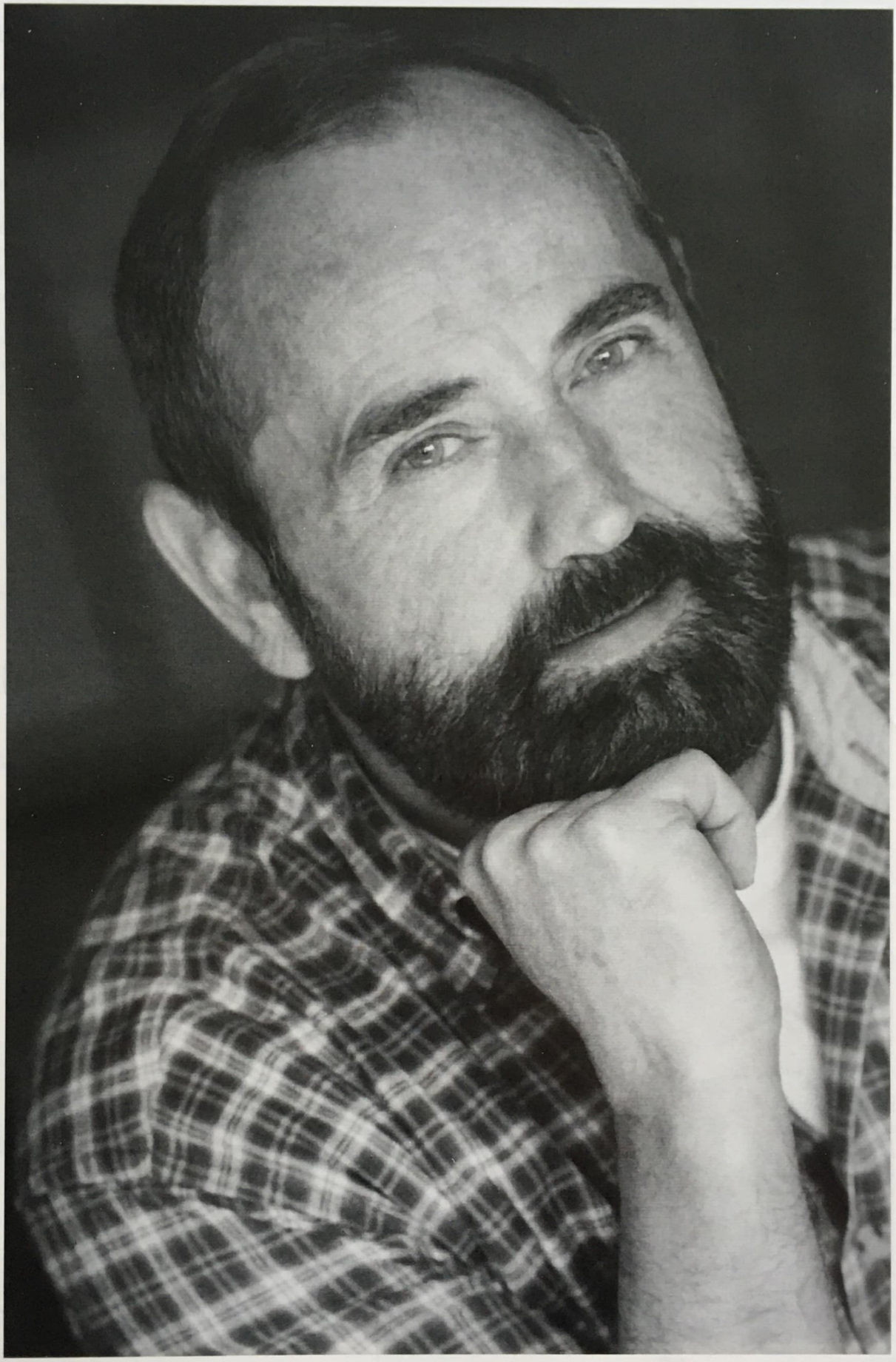

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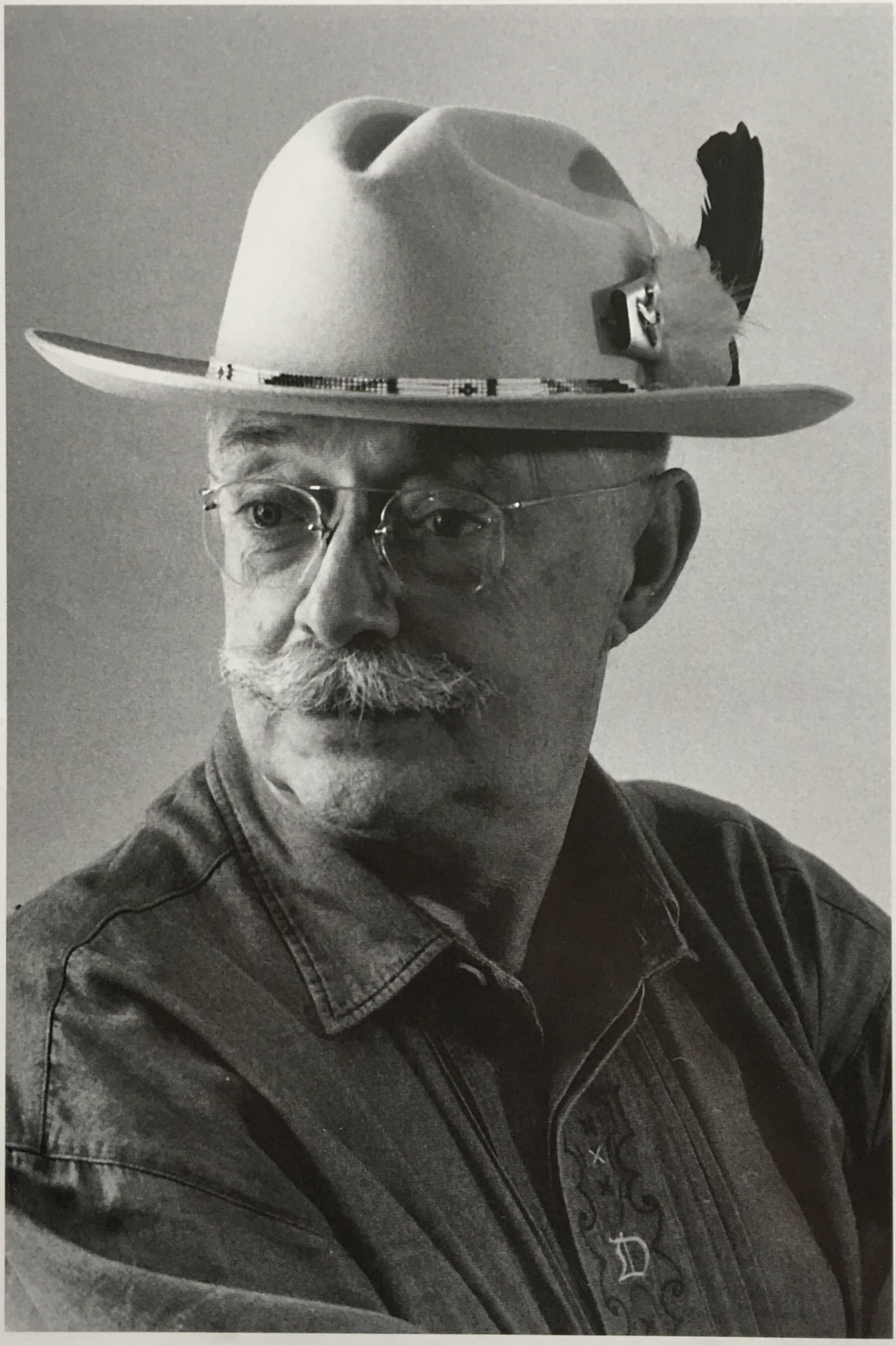

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THE APOLLO NETWORK

http://www.apollonetwork.com

a place in cyberspace for "seasoned" men and those who love and appreciate them!

Who is an Apollo Man?

Apollo Man, as opposed to men of other life styles, is impossible to define in one word. He is first and foremost a man who likes manly men. He is success oriented. He does not waste time on trendy living. Bars are not his weakness. He is more likely to program computers than arrange flowers. His theater of operation is more often a hospital than the state. He would not be caught dead in drag or date someone in a dress, male or female. Bottom line: he likes other masculine men-the company of other men, the merriment of other men, the jokes of other men, the work of other men, even the smell of other men, and, of course, the bed of other men.

Apollo Man does not mind breaking with the traditions of the group that society has cast him in. He delights in breaking the rules-even those from within his own group. He is, first, last, and always, his own man. But he is also a man who wants and realizes the advantages of bonding with another man who shares his dreams.

Apollo Man enjoys most the company of men who have honor and respect for the natural process of growing old. He knows that only in growing old is there growth of maturity and inner beauty in himself. This alone sets him apart from both heterosexual and homosexual society which worship youth and fear old age.

The process that gave us life also slowly takes it back, and it is done so in an orderly and reasonable fashion. Those men who appreciate and flow with the work of nature are naturally inclined to love men of all ages and appreciate men for whatever life stage (age) they are in. Apollo Men do not fear or despise growing old. Rather, they honor age as a sign of distinction. Consequently, Apollo Men are often attracted to each other across the traditional age barriers. Older men and younger men join in union, each helping and supplying the other with the gifts that each uniquely holds.

The name we chose, "Apollo,"is the name of the sun, the star of our solar system, the supreme male symbol, and the giver of life for us all. We came from the sun, and one day the sun will reach out and pull us back into its massive body.

Who is an Apollo Man? If what is said above describes how you feel about life and men, then YOU are an Apollo Man. Come join us as we explore ourselves on the Men of Apollo Network.

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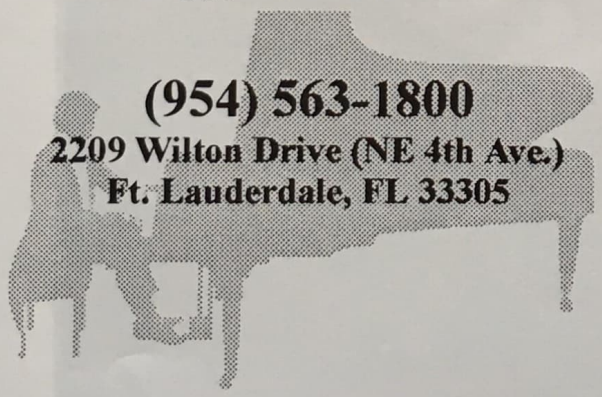

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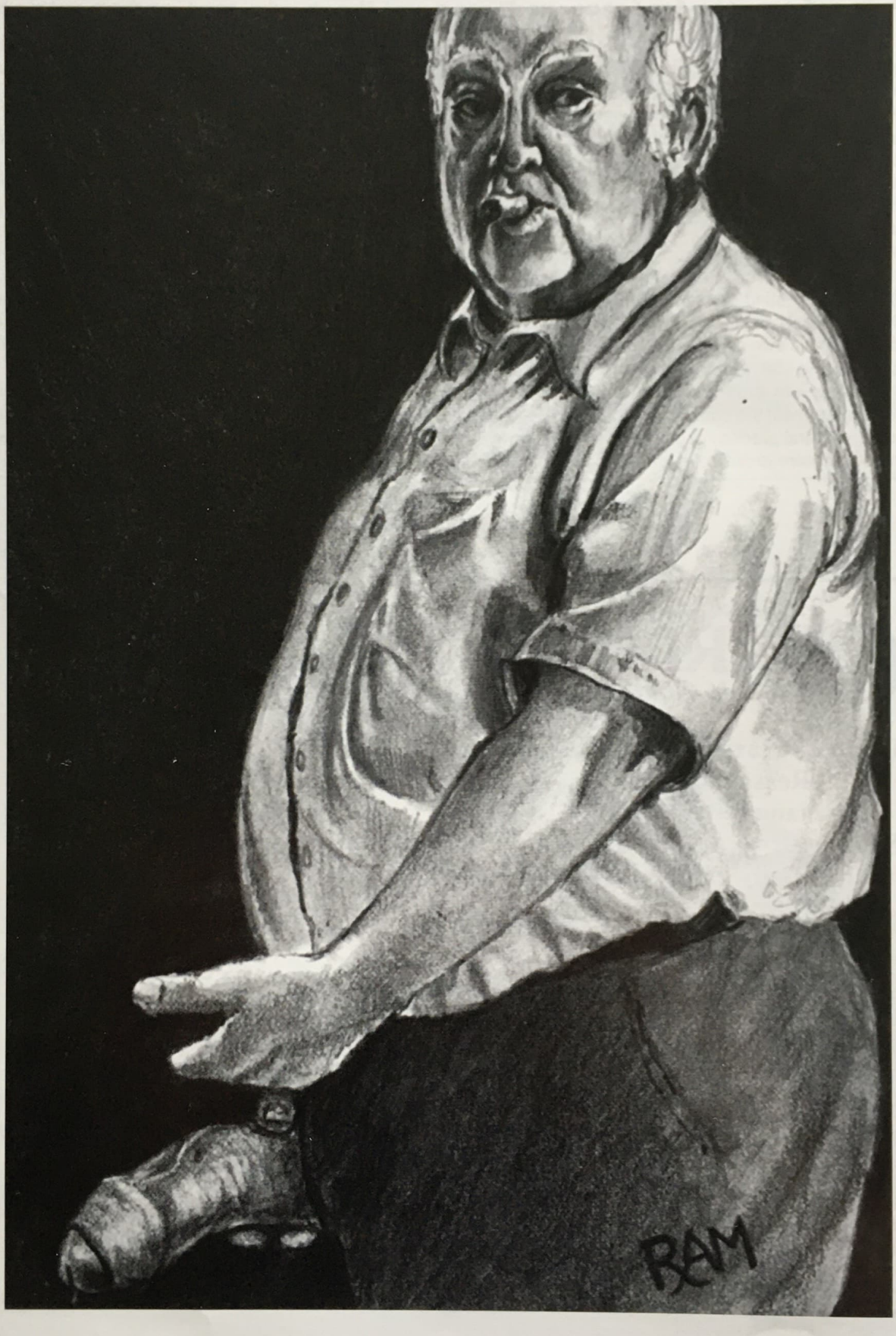
ram



joe

WINGNUT

ray

THAT'S LIFE!

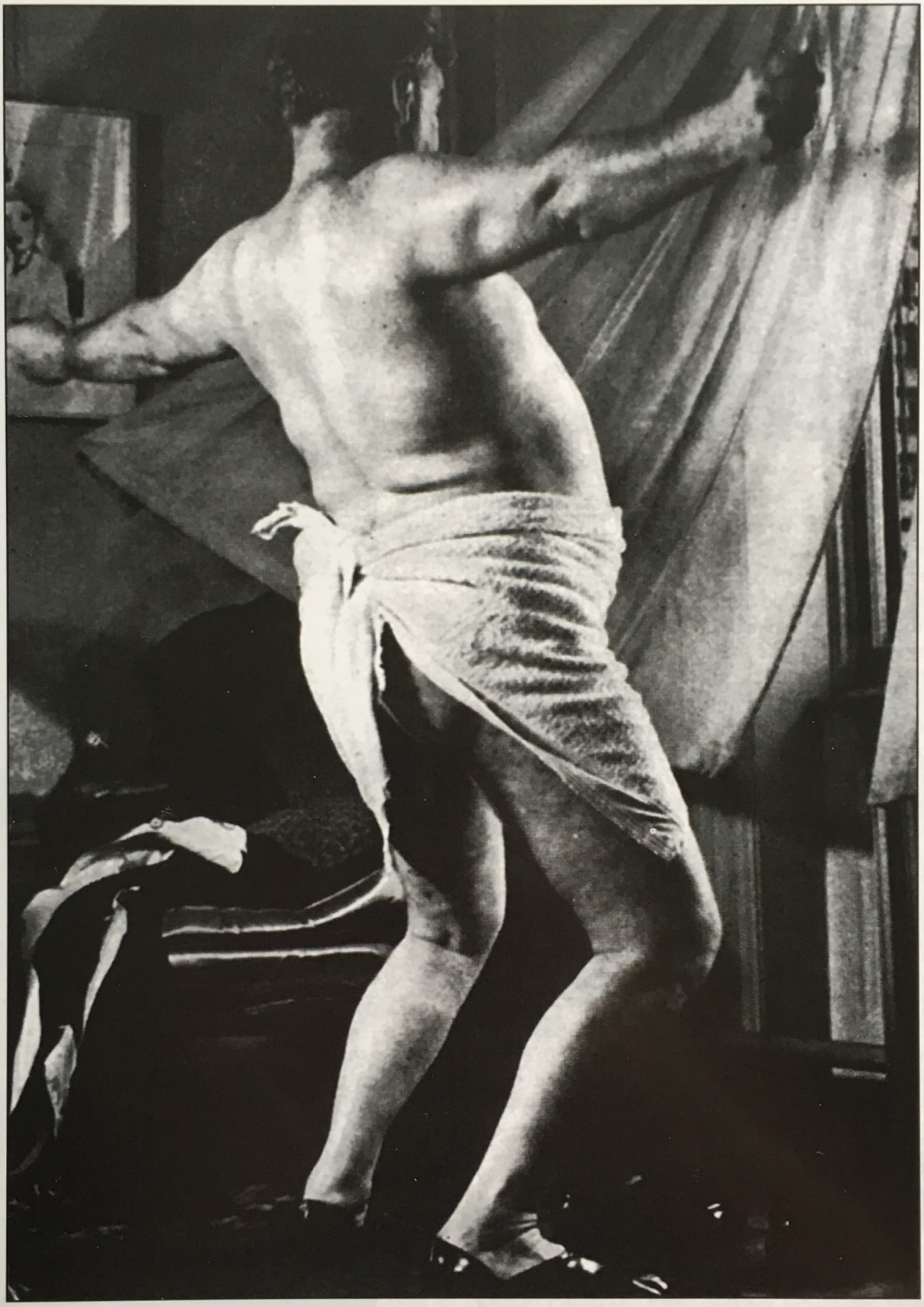
Two very good friends, SOUTH PASADENA JIM and BIG EDDIE from New York, are always sending us incredible materials from publications all over the world. Most we can't publish without special permission, but the following article (I forgot which one sent it, so I will give both credit), from a March 15, 1937, issue of LIFE, is worth the effort. In response to a flood of mail about an article showing how a woman should undress with dignity and charm, LIFE's editors decided to do the same for a man. We will publish herewith only the "how not to" part, for obvious reasons.

Bowler and cigar had best be disposed of before removing coat and trousers.

The overhead shirt technique is definitely vulgar. Don't use a lamp as hatrack.

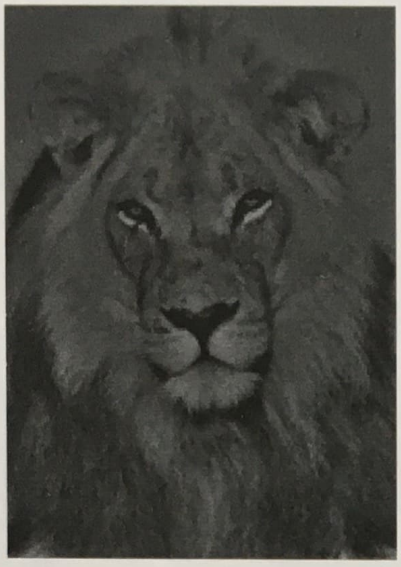
A hideous climax of slovenliness is here reached with the overhead shirt movement.

Scratching yourself is a cardinal bedroom DON'T. Yet many men break this rule.



Portly exercisers like the one above should do their stuff behind bathroom doors.

ORDER OF THE SILVER SIMBA



If you need bereavement support, the Order can help you if you get in touch with us. You do not have to be a subscriber or customer of CRPI, nor do you have to be a member of the Order of the Silver Simba. The simple act of reaching out entitles you to our help. We cannot refer you to a professional counselor or clergyman, but we will put you in touch with other men in your area who have suffered the same as you and survived. It is our sincere belief that benevolent contact with those who have walked in your shoes can provide a valid and effective alternative or supplement to professional therapies.

If you wish to join the Order and donate spiritual support for a brother suffering through grief, send your name, address, telephone number, and a statement that you would like to offer your time and compassion to a grieving brother in your area. Also state if you: a) have lost a mate, b) are losing a mate, c) are just a compassionate soul wanting to help.

Your identity will never be divulged, either by list or referral. You will be contacted only by CR if your help is needed, and you will be supplied a contact.

Write: CR, P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393, or call (toll-free) (888) 227-2935 within the U.S. or (760) 868-6371 outside U.S. E-mail: crpi@aol.com

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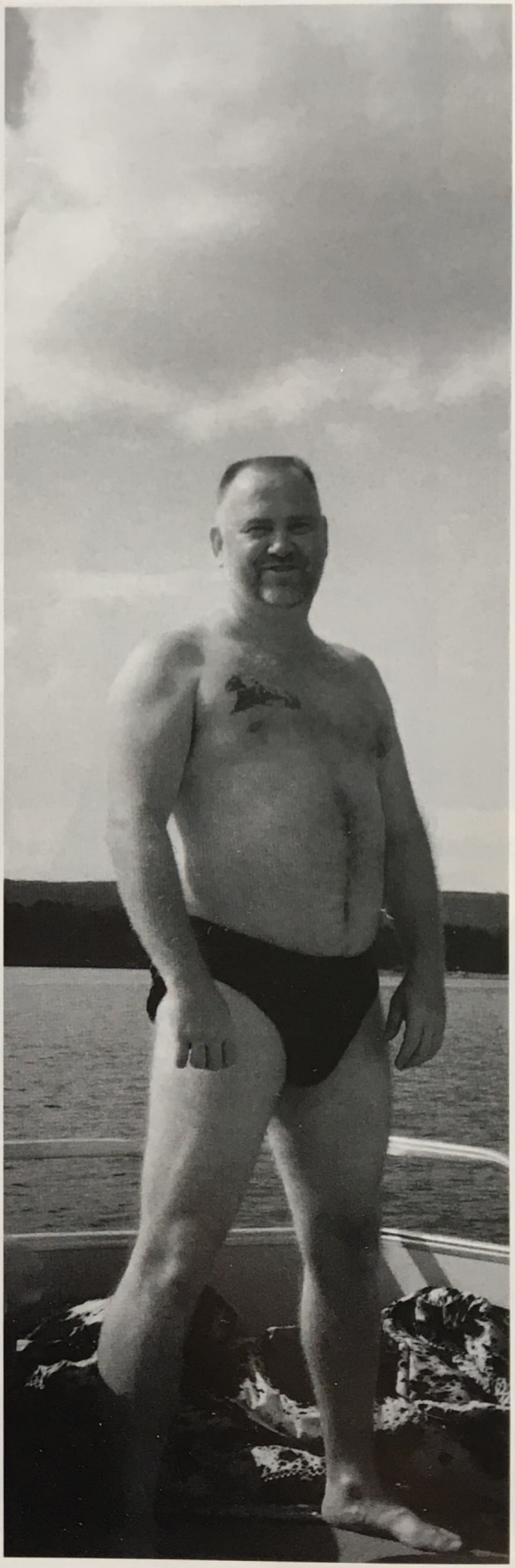
BOTTOM BEAR



james

THE CONTACT NETWORK

ARIZONA

(12/98) ARIZONA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 62, 6 ft., 250#, HIV negative, looking for someone 30-60 for friendship and possible LTR, if compatible. Light drinker and smoker okay. No drugs. Looks and body not important, but heart and soul are. I am a travel agent who loves to travel. Just learning computers. Enjoy most forms of safe sex. Your photo gets mine: **BAREKAT**

(12/98) ARIZONA/NATIONWIDE: GHM, 53, 5'-9", 175#, brown/brown, 501s, cowboy type, furry chest, very attractive, masculine, total bottom. I enjoy the outdoors, travel, most music, movies, and quiet times at home in the arms of a loving man. Seeking 25-55, masculine top, preferably tall and slender. Must be sincere, honest, loving, and monogamous. Be able to bond with a positive attitude toward life and a long-term relationship. Write: T.A.L., P.O. Box 22236, Flagstaff, AZ 86002.

(4/99) FLAGSTAFF/ARIZONA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 58, 5'-11", full head of silver hair, blue/green, versatile, attractive, seeks friendship and long term relationship. Enjoy outdoors, animals, sewing, quiet times. Write: RWS, P.O. Box 22236, Flagstaff, AZ 86002.

CALIFORNIA-NORTH

(2/99) BAY AREA: Romantic, healthy, sexy, good lookin' (I've been told), active, intelligent, funny, 69-year-old, hoping to find a mature man to date. Object: matrimony. I'm 5'-10", 190#, white hair, blue eyes, smooth body with "average" build. Bill Jones, 324 Larkin St. #52, San Francisco, CA 94102.

(12/98) SAN FRANCISCO/NATIONWIDE: Asian, late 40s, 5'-6", slim, good looking, HIV negative, nonsmoker/drinker, easy-going, caring, affectionate, is interested in meeting an older GWM for possible relationship. Together we enjoy movies, traveling, cooking, quiet times, music. Please drop a line. Photo appreciated and returned. Jim, 537 Jones St. #2450, San Francisco, CA 94102.

CALIFORNIA-SOUTH

(4/99) BURBANK/SAN FERNANDO VALLEY: Sexy, masculine couple, open relationship, seeks other horny, virile singles and couples. We are responsive, talented, and playful. You be the same. Hairy a plus. We are both hairy, HIV negative. Older partner only out six years. HIV negative a must. Write: Fred M., Box 6884, Burbank, CA 91510, or call (818) 762-3675, from 9 am to midnight.

(2/99) LAGUNA BEACH/NATIONWIDE: Couple, open relationship, 58, 5'-9", 160#, hung, and 65, 5'-8", 185#, hairy, seek safe sex/friendship with energetic mature male(s), especially furry bears. We are HIV negative, discreet, oral, tit, and reciprocal. Peter/Jack, 1494 Glenneyre, Laguna Beach, CA 92651, or phone (949) 497-3548.

(4/99) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: Seeking sincere, younger friends and/or long-term relationship. I am chubby, 59, 5'-8", 225#, retired. Photo appreciated. John C, 1067 Via Grande, Cathedral City, CA 92234, or e-mail Johnc2000@earthlink.net

(8/99) LOS ANGELES/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 36, 5'-8", 200#, brown/hazel, seeks masculine, straight-acting, sensitive, honest GWM, 40-55, for friendship, possible relationship. Rugged/hairy chest preferred. Write: RGD, 13801 Oxnard St. #211, Van Nuys, CA 91401. If possible, enclose photo.

(2/99) CALIFORNIA/NATIONWIDE/INTERNATIONAL: DWM, 55, 5'-8", 150#, uncut, trim, in-shape, HIV negative, well-travelled, cosmopolitan, retired, in search of successful, secure, healthy gentleman around 70 + till eternity, French active, for short visits, vacations or cruises. Your photo and telephone number will get prompt reply. Write Mr. T., P.O. Box 3802, Santa Barbara, CA 93130.

(12/98) CALIFORNIA: White gentleman, 44, 5'-10", chubby, nonsmoker, quiet, kind, considerate, affectionate, loving. Very naive and trusting—little boy in a man's body. Seeks Sugar Daddy for love and security, NOT luxury and travel. Love to hug, kiss, cuddle, caress, fondle. Mostly bottom. Enjoy baking, crosswords, comedy. Seeks monogamous relationship with white conservative type, financially secure fellow, 50+. Prefer slender, slightly hairy, medium/small frame, elf-like. To receive detailed information, respond to **TEX-RAY**

(12/98) A REAL DAD SEEKING THE RIGHT "BOY" for a possible relationship. Dad is a 53-year-old GWM, 5'-9", 190#, short grey hair, brown eyes. Dad is loving, romantic, and passionate. Boy should be a submissive GWM or GHM, age 20-38. Boy will be loved, disciplined, and trained as needed. Dad is in Los Angeles at (818) 762-8535. Give me a call and let's talk.

(12/98) SENIOR CHUBBY WANTED: GWM, 50, 5'-8", 125#, younger-looking, educated, monogamous. Senior lover I met through my ad in CR #48, April '92, passed August '98. Grieving because we shared so completely, but still believe love is God's eternal gift. Into Religious Science, new and old movies, visiting beautiful places, daddy-son relationship. Write: Ira Orloff, 418 S. Normandie Ave. #205, Los Angeles, CA 90020.

(12/98) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: Outgoing, loving, spiritual, 55-years-young, seeks 18+ male for fun, growth, exploration, and friendship. Donald: (909) 883-0821.

(12/98) PALM SPRINGS/NATIONWIDE: Couple, open relationship, 58, 6'-1", 250#, warm and playful; and 74, 5'-11", 160#, enjoys watching, seek safe sex/friendship with hairy mature men or couples, 45-65. We are HIV negative, discreet, oral, and receptive. Enjoy old cars, art, music, and theater. We are both retired professionals. Bill/Richard, 2190 E. Desert Palms Dr., Palm Springs, CA 92262, (760) 416-9548, e-mail: mcmay@gte.net Fax: (760) 416-8889.

(V2) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, single, 60, 5'-11", 178#, reddish/brown hair, blue eyes, clean cut, HIV negative, easy going and relaxed. I have a very

unusual lifestyle and occupation. I am straight acting, do not smoke, drink or get involved in drugs. I am very discreet and have a great sense of humor. I love holding, kissing, cuddling and sex often. I am well-endowed and cut, typical of my English ancestry. Seeking monogamous long-term relationbship with a sincere, compatible, younger, fun-loving, romantic partner. Please send me your serious, detailed letter with photos and your phone number for a prompt reply. Write: D.R.P., P.O. Box 10009, Burbank, CA 91510-0009.

(4/99) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND NATIONWIDE: SWM, 55, 6 ft., 180#, discreet and lonely loner, seeking bald guys for hands-on passion. Sorry, no overweights or predators. Write to: **CREAMER**

(4/99) NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL: Couple, intergenerational, 60/80, seeks younger man, 35-55, to learn and inherit thriving business. Must be strong, vibrant, intelligent, and good hearted. Should love senior men with a passion, if not to a fault. Write: **BLUEGREEN**

COLORADO

(12/98) NATIONWIDE: Black male, 34, 6'-2", 185#, professionally secure, HIV negative, nonsmoker, goal-oriented, and lonesome. Seeks one gentleman/mentor, 40-70, any race, for friendship, companionship or LTR. Various interests, able to relocate. All responses answered. Photo (return). Write: S.L., P.O. Box 26194, Colorado Springs, CO 80936-6194.

CONNECTICUT

(6/99) FURRY BEARS, big and burly, sought by bearded GWM, 54, 160#, 6'-2". Call/write: Jon, P.O. Box 851, Danbury, CT 06813, (203) 794-0868.

FLORIDA

(4/99) SILVER FOX, 68, 5'-10", 190#, white moustache and sides, tummy, monogamous, honest, loving, caring, sincere, discreet, great sense of humor, seeking young (age 19 to 39), slender lifemate. Photo please. Write: Don, P.O. Box 11313, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33339.

(12/98) FOR SALE: 17 back issues of SWAN, April 86 to January 89; 58 back issues of CR, February 89 to 1997, including 8 CR CLASSICS issues. Call (561) 276-8662.

(V2) NORTHERN FLORIDA/NATIONWIDE: Healthy, active, muscular GWM, 79, 5'-8", 160#, CR Model (Aug. 95). Enjoy hiking, swimming, travel, congenial conversation. In search of 50-plus friends, preferably hairy, not obese. Home is near I-75 exit; guests welcome. Photos exchanged. Write: **DELTA MAN**, or E-mail: jvan@nervm.nerdc.ufl.edu

GEORGIA

(4/99) ROSWELL, GEORGIA: GWM, 80, 5'-10", 220#, brown eyes, gray/white hair, 5" cut, widower, retired teacher, affectionate, masculine, seeking nonsmoker, no drugs, moderate drinker, 60-85, for friendship, pen-pal and more. Enjoy hugging, kissing, fondling, mutual J/O, French A/P. Your photo with phone number gets prompt reply. Inquire: **ROBI**

HAWAII

(2/99) HONOLULU/NATIONWIDE: 60s GWM, 165#, 5'-7", hot/hard uncutt 7-1/2", versatile, adventurous, HIV negative, gray hair, full beard, don't smoke/drink (but could be talked into a dubbie now and then), educated, like BIG low-hung balls, good F.G./A.P. Nude picture gets mine. JRW, Box 10736, Honolulu, HI 96816.

ILLINOIS

(2/99) ILLINOIS/NATIONWIDE: Top GWM, 68, 6'-1", 205#, wants a big, strong, heavyset bottomish son for gentle horseplay, mutual workout, safe sex, swimming, sleeping with each other. Write: J.L., P.O. Box 1395, Melrose Park, IL 60161.

(12/98) CENTRAL ILLINOIS/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 74, 5'-9", 185#, seeking mature, heavy-set for meetings and companionship. Letter with description and/or photo will be answered. Write: **NUTHATCH**, or call (217) 442-4896.

LOUISIANA

(12/98) BATON ROUGE: GWM, 54, 5'-8", 220#, hairy bear-woman in man's body, desires good-natured, lovin he-man for wild, discreet encounters. J. Walters, Box 74822, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4822.

MAINE

(12/98) MAINE/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 61, 5'-9", 170#, silver hair, seeks 40-65, medium build, for friendship and long-term, TLC relationship. I thrive on music (especially classical), the arts, cozy fireside suppers, flower gardens, light entertaining, and intimacy. You be a nonsmoker, moderate to non-drinker who values honesty and trust. Let's exchange photos and more. Write: J. Whidden, 6 Old County Road, Orland, ME 04472.

MARYLAND

(12/98) MARYLAND: GWM, 39, 5'-8", 180#, single, brown/blue, salt & pepper beard, well-built, seeks 45-70 buddy/daddy who is into racing, NHRA, IHRA. To start team for next season. Have car and knowledge, boxers and silk boxers. Powerboating as well. Too many options to list. Smokers and drinkers fine. Humor a must. Please, no open relationships, married men or reformers. Yours gets mine. Would like to meet someone with similar interests. A.C., P.O. Box 578, Owings, MD 20736.

MASSACHUSETTS

(12/98) SEEKING LOVER: GWM, 50, 6 ft., 210#, Sean Connery look, seeking slim GWM, 18-26, for meaningful relationship with honesty, trust, and respect. Home is ready to share love, and life in western Massachusetts peaceful college town. If seriously interested, write: J.S., P.O. Box 705, Hadley, MA 01035.

(V2) BOSTON BILL, age 68, seeks friends or companions living in USA (preferably Northeastern USA). Prefer single, nonsmoker, younger (25-45), any race, slim or muscular. E-mail: bostbill@ix.netcom.com Fax: (617) 288-6331, P.O. Box 261, Boston, MA 02122.

MICHIGAN

(4/99) MICHIGAN - EUP or NLP: You're intelligent, fun-loving, politically progressive, healthy, sensually affectionate, leisurely sexual, home/outdoors-enjoying, nearby or commuter. I'm SGWM, 48, 5'-11", 184#, bearish, rather hairy, bald crown/thick surround, salt and pepper beard, nonsmoker/drinker/doper, interested in arts and ideas. Detailed self-intro and buff photo (s) get mine. Dan Doran, Rt. 2, Box 282, Sault, MI 49783.

(12/98) SOUTHERN MICHIGAN OR NEAR: GWM, 62, 5'-11", 210#, smooth, no facial hair, quiet, into giving and receiving tons of affection, tunnel-visioned. My ideal man is 55 to 70, under 5'-9", under 170#, under 6 inches, not addicted to any substance, and financially independent. Since ideal is wishful dreaming, reality dictates. If you're breathing, I'm receptive. No exception to addiction and independent requirements. Write: E.T. Johnson, 231 Springview Dr. #712, Battle Creek, MI 49017-2849.

MINNESOTA

(12/98) TWIN CITIES/NATIONWIDE: Lonely GWM, 71, 230#, 5'-10", blue/balding grey, model in CR 67, HIV negative, recovering from an auto accident. Interests: theater, movies, music, spectator sports, good food, travel, reading. Serious only with photo. **RIC**

MISSISSIPPI

(12/98) BAY ST. LOUIS: Take care of an older man. He is just fine except a little unsteady on his feet. I am 72, 5'-9", 160#, uncut. You are 50-65, over 160#, preferably uncut. Free living in a pleasant town. Tom Horner, 212 Ballentine, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520.

(8/99) MISSISSIPPI/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 73, 6'-2", 170#, retired professor seeks clergy, attorneys, doctors, professors and professional men for friendship and more. Photo and telephone number. Write: J.W., Ph.D., Box 4056, Biloxi, MS 39535.

NEVADA

(12/98) RENO: 60ish guy seeks friends (has lover). Likes offbeat travel, railroads, architecture, musicals. Rick. (702) 329-2474.

NEW JERSEY

(12/99) INTELLIGENT, LOYAL FRIEND: sincere, caring and affectionate. BiWM, 69, 5'-11", 165#; interests include cultural, scientific, spiritual, sexual. Me: Dignified, balding, fit, HIV negative. You: Mature (any age), enjoy intimacy, communication, control. Ken (201) 592-6690, 6-11:30 pm or weekends. Will return all calls.

(12/98) NEW JERSEY: Retired couple, Toms River Area, would like to meet other couples for socializing. Like to entertain, antique collections, share memories and past experiences. Ray: (732) 323-0484.

(12/98) NORTHERN NEW JERSEY/NYC: 62, 5'-10", 148#, fit, healthy, seeking possible monogamous relationship with secure, stable, masculine man, 55-72, to share life, love and loyalty. Please send note, recent photos. Write: **NEW JERSEY AL**

NEW MEXICO

(12/98) LAS CRUCES/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 75, 6 ft., 180#, blue, white, nonsmoker/drinker, looking for friend, hopefully more. Interested in theater, art, music, cooking. Write: S.D., 2992 Majestic Terrace Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88011.

NEW YORK

(2/99) LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 72, 6 ft., 235#, attractive, silver-haired and bearded, affectionate, hairy. Seeks man over 50 for long-term relationship and to share my interests in the performing/creative arts, gardening, the beach, romance, and travel. Please send photo and phone # to **LIBEARART**

(2/99) BROOKLYN/NATIONWIDE: Couple, 57 & 54, 175 & 186, 5'-1" & 6'-2", balding/hairy & smooth/red hair, both cut. Seeking friends and couples in NYC and nationwide. We enjoy social nudity, small gatherings, theater, country music. On fixed income: can't travel much, so come and visit, play. Write: Ken & Bob, 235 Adams St. #4F, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

(12/98) NATIONWIDE/CANADA: Masculine GWM, 48, 6'-1", trim, clean-shaven, hairy-chested, nonsmoker, social drinker, warm, caring, romantic, crazy about older men, seeks affectionate, unattached and dignified gentleman over 65 for passionate, monogamous relationship. I have a lot of love and affection to give and need your grey hair, your smile, your strength. Let's start a new life together! I can travel and would relocate anywhere for the right person. Please send detailed letter and photos. Steve, Box 246, 208 E. 51st St., New York, NY 10022.

(V2) NEW YORK/LONG ISLAND: Seeks 60+, husky, well-endowed local area man. Me: 44, WGM, 197#, XGDLKG, 5'-11", GDSHPE, independent, masculine, fun, warm, loving. "It's nice to be important, but important to be nice." <greathead@hotmail.com>

(12/98) NEW YORK: Mature (60), good-looking GWM, happy, sincere, honest, loving, caring, successful, romantic, sexy with smooth, muscular body, 5'-9", 190#, into bodybuilding, scuba, nudity, beach, cuddling, kissing, music, dancing, much more, seeks younger GM, nonsmoker, who is shorter, lean, smooth, muscular, to be lover, best friend, workout buddy. Share life and love with Richard, Box 15471, Syracuse, NY 13215.

(4/99) NYC/NATIONWIDE: Wanted: Leather master, any age/any race. I need training in B & D, S & :M, or sexual servitude. Teach me to be the leather submissive I yearn to be. I am 61, 6'-3", 245+ pounds, HIV negative. Hope you are too. Please respond to **B.B.**

NORTH CAROLINA

(12/98) NORTH CAROLINA/USA: WM, 49, 295#, 5'-8", seeks others, 35+, for penpals, sex, lifemate (?). Write: R.B., 936 Wenco Dr., Lexington, NC 27292-3155.

(2/99) SALISBURY/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 40, looking for a LTR and good friendship and fun. I'm 5'-11", 200#, blue/blond, hairy, no drink/drugs, searching for any gent who is 40 to 70 years of age. Must be heavyset or big build (200 to 300+ lbs). I'm a graphic artist who is home at all times. You can contact me: Sargebear M. Brooks, P.O. Box 433, Salisbury,

NC 28145, telephone (704) 642-0493, e-mail: Sargebear1@aol.com (please put in subject line "CR Ad Response"). I can and will suit your needs, no matter what it might be. I like movies, music (all kinds), computers, and dogs. Feel free to call day or night, anytime.

SOUTH CAROLINA

(2/99) COLUMBIA/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 27, 6'-1", 195#, short light brown hair, hazel eyes, seeks 50-older for relationship. I enjoy cooking, traveling, reading, and unconditional love. I am very willing to relocate, so rescue me. Your photo (will return) and telephone number will get a prompt reply. Write: M.F., P.O. Box 84491,Lexington, SC 29073.

TEXAS

(12/98) S.E. TEXAS/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 71, 6'-2", 200#, discreet, would like to meet men my age for friendship and more. Your letter gets mine. Write: B.G., 10065 Kemp Forest, Houston, TX 77080.

(2/99) DALLAS/NATIONWIDE: GWM, HIV negative, cute, 35, 6 ft., 179#, brown hair/eyes, hairy. Seeks partner who is HIV negative, masculine, stocky, preferably pierced, tattoos, cock rings, for a long-term relationship. Enjoys outdoors, movies, roller coasters, fairs, MCC, beaches. Am honest, caring, understanding, sincere. John Cross, 6565 McCullum #306, Dallas, TX 75252.

UTAH

(See FIREBLADE in ENGLAND)

VIRGINIA

(12/98) GEN XER, GBM: from Maryland, 6'-1", 275#, cute, and looking for a Dad. I'm a guy into all sizes, races, etc. Interests range from reading and writing to computers, music and just having fun. Sexually, I'm into it all. E-mail: **yng1@tomco.net**, or contact Nate, P.O. Box 13411, Arlington, VA 22219.

(12/98) RICHMOND/VIRGINIA: BiWM, 55, gray, blue, 5'-9", 185#, seeks G or BiWM, 50-65, for days in country, hiking, camping, or just sitting at home enjoying each other. Write: **RAMAS**

WASHINGTON

(V2) NATIONWIDE/INTERNATIONAL: I seek friends to share adventures and one younger man to share life. I ski (Sun Valley, Idaho), sail (Puget Sound), and travel. I'm 6'-1", 215#, 62, hairy, bearded, affectionate, and aggressive. If you want to know a man who has a good heart, let me hear from you. Photo/phone appreciated: Sam, Box 5132, Everett, WA 98206, or call (206) 292-1096.

WISCONSIN

(12/98) WAUSAU/WORLDWIDE: Young BiWM will orally service any 50+ y/o men who can travel to Wausau, Wisconsin. Hotel meetings only. Write: **TOOL**

INTERNATIONAL

(NOTE: Letters to coded advertisers will be returned to sender if postage is insufficient.)

(4/99) ITALY: I'm 25, steady, quiet, likeable, sweet, polite. Looking for a serious Dad who is distinguished, tender, over 50, to be the King of my life. The Santa Clause of my dreams. "...to be one of each other, just master, just pupil ..." A good letter will be appreciated. Write: **VENEZIA**

(12/98) LONDON/SCOTLAND: Cover model B.J., model/writer KOKOPELLI (CR #71, 75), planning to visit in '99. Wish contact with local folks for friendship, suggestions about things to see/do, possible future hospitality exchange. Write: Luis Torres, 3003 Whisper Lark, San Antonio, TX 78230, or e-mail: TXKokopell@aol.com

(12/98) INTERNATIONAL: Where is THE exceptional Gentleman over 65, the sincere lover, partner, international business and casual travelling companion? Sovereign in public, in privacy he needs and has a shoulder to lean on. Live in Europe and the U.S. with German business man, 49, masculine, fit, non-gay scene, sharing a meaningful, long-term relationship on the basis of monogamous values. Write: **XAVER**

(2/99) ENGLAND: GWM, 50, cropped hair, heavy mustache, 5'-9", 160#, strong, fit, active, down-to-earth. Seeks 60 plus guy, stocky, straight acting, for friendship and hopefully more. Photo, please. Will return. Write: **FIREBLADE**

[IMPORTANT NOTE: Send unsolicited photos at your own risk. If you have sent solicited photos to a model or advertiser and they are reluctant to return same, write them again and copy us. Notice to models and advertisers: we will not tolerate failure to return solicited photos when asked to do so. Responders: please make sure you fit an advertiser's guidelines before writing. The advertiser is under no obligation to answer responders who are not the type asked for.]

CR FRIENDS NETWORK

The following men have offered to take single men—regardless of age, size, looks, color—"under their wings" primarily on a social and spiritual basis. If you are lonely and in the advertiser's area, contact him and he will help you meet the right people.

ARIZONA TUCSON - **BAREKAT**
CALIFORNIA - SAN DIEGO -**BIG BILL**
GARDEN GROVE, CA - **TUFLUV DAD**
FAIRFIELD AREA - **TOM**
HOLLYWOOD - **HOLLYWOOD'S BUD**
PALM SPRINGS - **HAMHOCK & KIMBEAR**
PALM SPRINGS - **PAPITOMAS -** papitomas@aol.com
SANTA BARBARA - **ROSE**
VENICE - **MAMBO**
SAN FRANCISCO - **ROGER II**
COLORADO - ROCKIES -**DANO**
DENVER/NEIGHBORING STATES - **STILL PERFORMING**

FLORIDA - SARASOTA AREA - **PROFESSOR RICK**
WEST PALM BEACH AREA - **W.P.B. DAN**
WEST PALM BEACH AREA - **NARI**
FT. LAUDERDALE AREA - **FT. LAUDERDALE JON**
CLEARWATER - **CHARLES**
FT. MYERS AREA - **BLUE BIRD**
MIAMI BEACH - **DUKE**
GEORGIA - ATLANTA - **J.R.P.**
ROSWELL - **ROBI**
ILLINOIS - N.E. ILLINOS AREA - **N.E. I. ALAN**
KENTUCKY - LOUISVILLE AREA - **G.L. PATRICK**
MASSACHUSETTS - NEAR CAPE COD AREA - **AUGAR**
MISSISSIPPI - BILOXI - **J.W.**
NEW JERSEY - MONTCLAIR AREA - **N.J. JUD**
WISCONSIN - MILWAUKEE AREA - **MILWAUKEE JOE**
MILWAUKEE AREA - **MILWAUKEE BERNARD**
NEW YORK - MANHATTAN - **ROMANCER**
BRONX - **GRANDIN**
PENNSYLVANIA - Philadelphia Suburbs - **PACKER**
Philadelphia - **JOEINPHILA**
TENNESSEE - MADISON - **TENNEHOO**
TEXAS - SAN ANTONIO AREA- **RICHARD**
VIRGINIA/D.C. - NORTHERN VIRGINIA- **BERT**
WISCONSIN - FISH CREEK - **TRANQUILITY** - butch729@juno.com

AUSTRALIA - CANBERRA - **WALKABOUT**
NEW SOUTH WALES - **NSW ALAN**
GERMANY - S.W. GERMANY - **HOMHL** - HOML@t-online.de
JAPAN - HIROSHIMA - **SATO**

DON'T BE LONELY. REACH OUT!
BECOME A CR FRIEND!

ALL ABOUT PLACING ADS AND RESPONDING TO ADVERTISERS, MODELS, AND CR FRIENDS

1. COMMERCIAL RESPONSE TO PERSONAL ADS: The express purpose of our personal ads is to aid our readers in finding friends and mates. Any ads of a commercial nature must be placed in the commercial section. Readers responding to personal ads may not use such opportunity to distribute commercial materials. We reserve the right to deny advertising and forwarding privileges to any person found doing this.

2. PERSONAL ADVERTISER'S RESPONSIBILITY: Personal advertisers are urged to answer all mail received, provided the responder is generally the type of person targeted in the ad. We will deny advertising and forwarding privileges to flagrant, repeat offenders.

3. PUBLISHER'S LIMITATION OF RESPONSIBILITY: We take no responsibility for any undesirable relationship or experience resulting from the use of our classified ads, be they personal or commercial. We will monitor all ads and refuse to publish those which obviously imply fraud or peril. Very unsavory people have been known to use publications to victimize readers and advertisers. Seemingly innocent ads designed to lure as many readers as possible into a criminal scam or government sting operation are sometimes placed in erotic magazines. These people also respond to the ads of others with the same come-on. We urge our readers to use these ads with the utmost caution and common sense.

4. AGE REQUIREMENT: All responders and advertisers must be 18 or over. The exclusion of an age limitation in any ad does not constitute an invitation to minors.

5. OUTDATED ADS: Do not answer ads in older issues. People move and post office boxes change hands. Your letter could end up in the wrong hands. Unforwardable letters will be marked with a "U" and returned to sender.

6. SEXUALLY EXPLICIT ADS: We will not publish ads with sexually explicit or coarse language designed more for shock value than for attracting a partner. We reserve the right to edit, rewrite or reject ads.

7. INSTRUCTIONS FOR ANSWERING CODED ADS, which are those with BOLD code names at the end of the ad and no address:

>> Write, stamp and seal your letter inside a discreet envelope. Make sure you have enough postage for overweight and foreign letters. Your return address must be shown on your letter to be forwarded. If you do not have access to U.S. stamps, send $1 or 2 international reply coupons for every 3 letters (over and above the forwarding fee). Stamped letters not meeting the above requirements will be returned with no explanation. Letters with no stamps affixed will be shredded.

>> IN PENCIL ONLY, lightly write the code word in the center of the envelope.

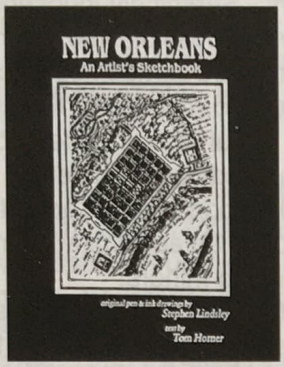
>> **Figure your forwarding fee: $1 per every three letters to forward.**
For one (1) to three (3) letters, enclose $1
For four (4) to six (6) letters, enclose $2
For seven (7) to nine (9) letters, enclose $3, and so on.
CASH ONLY!

>> Place your letter(s) inside a larger envelope and mail to CR at P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393.

8. INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITING MODELS, WRITERS AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS: Same as #7.

HAVE YOU SPENT A BUNDLE OF MONEY ON US OVER THE YEARS? WELL, IF YOU HAVE, THEN YOUR MAILING LABEL PROBABLY HAS A CODE THAT INCLUDES A **V2** OR HIGHER. IF SO, THEN YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A FREE AD (TRY TO KEEP IT BELOW 50 WORDS) IN EACH ISSUE UNTIL YOU TELL US TO STOP. IF YOU ARE A "V", THEN HANG ON FOR A WHILE LONGER. YOUR DAY WILL COME.

NEW ORLEANS
An Artist's Sketchbook



Original Pen & Ink Drawings by
Steven Lindsley

Text by
Tom Horner

$18.00
ISBN 1-884824-03-X

"This book is exactly what its title implies. . .and it is a charming look at the city. Lindsley's delicate original pen & ink drawings . . . are lovely to look at, and Horner's text is just right. . . the production is extraordinary, with good heavy paper and a beautiful cover. This would be a perfect souvenir or memento."
— **Susan Larson, Book Editor**
New Orleans Times-Picayune

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Bay St. Louis, MS 39520 • 601/467-3061

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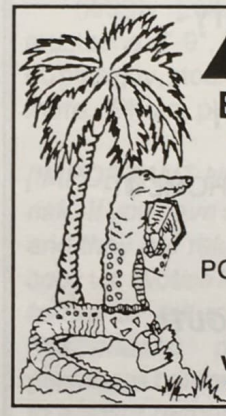
No. 3
cartoons for & about mature men
$3.00 + $1.00 POSTAGE/HANDLING → $4.00 TOTAL
QUETZAL • P.O.BOX 46095 • L.A., CA 90046



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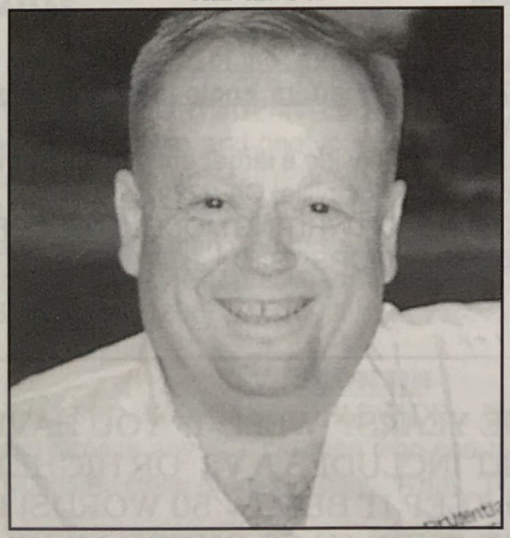
www.evergladesbookcompany.com
e-mail-evergladesbookcompany@msn.com

Mike Deveau
REALTOR



Palm Springs
Homes - Condos
Investments
(760) 323-5000
or
(760) 416-0675

The **Prudential**

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ROGER'S PLACE

A Cozy **Bed & Breakfast** in
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on Prestigious **Nob Hill**
(415) 441-5191

Where Fantasies Come Alive

Full Breakfast • King Size Bed
$45 A Night
($10 off to all CR Readers)

10 Years in Business

For the Mature Male and his Admirers

THE NATIONAL ROSTER

Find and contact new friends the least costly and most efficient way.

Members are listed in and receive The Roster & bi-monthly updates, with 4-line description of all other members including:

- Location (City, state, or country)
- Age, height, and weight
- Personal interests and tastes
- Sexual and social orientation & visibility
- HIV, relationship and/or marital status
- Type of contact sought (Me...You...)

After identifying those of most interest, they send for full page profiles filled out by each member giving more specific information, as well as means of contact.

Annual membership listing is $32, including bi-monthly updates of new members; *CR readers mentioning this ad can deduct $6.* Profiles are $1 for the first, and $.50 for each additional. Members with a positive HIV status pay whatever they can afford.

For membership forms and further information, send SASE to:

THE NATIONAL ROSTER
POB 20975/PACC NEW YORK, NY 10129-0009

Note: We are very selective as to publications where we advertise; our strictly confidential member lists are never sold or distributed.

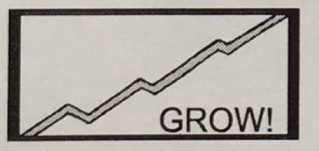
The Artwork of James L. Hawkins

Life Drawings of the nude male model made during the past thirty plus years.

YOU CAN ACCESS MY DRAWINGS NOW ON THE INTERNET AT http://www.best.com/~jlh/

START ACCEPTING THESE...

AND WATCH YOUR BUSINESS...



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Registered Agent For The Following FDIC Insured Banks: * Humboldt Bank, Eureka, CA * Redding Bank Of Commerce, Redding, Ca * * Tehama Bank, Red Bluff, Ca., * Bank of Oakland, Oakland, Ca., * First National Bank Of Central Florida, Longwood, Fl.,*

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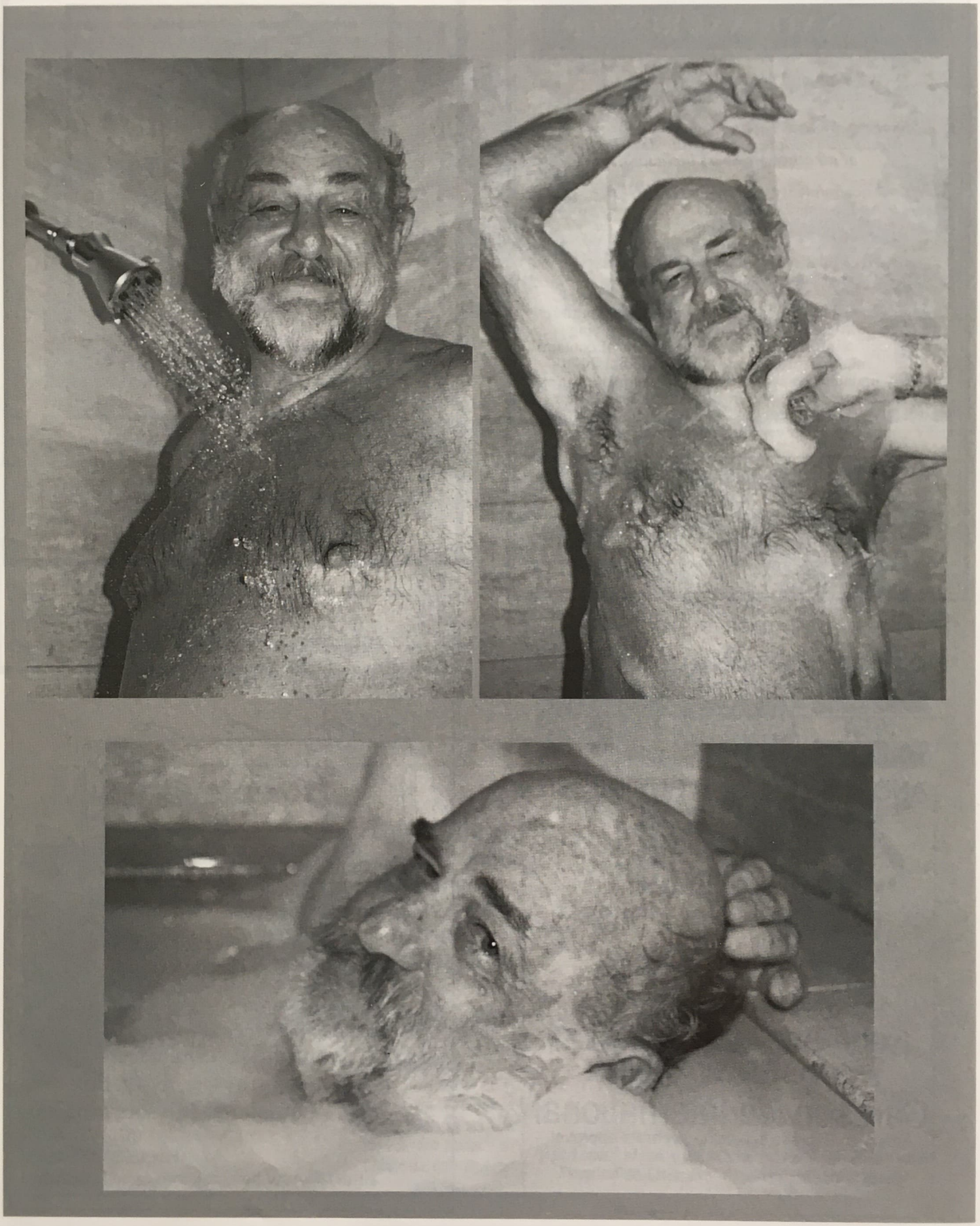
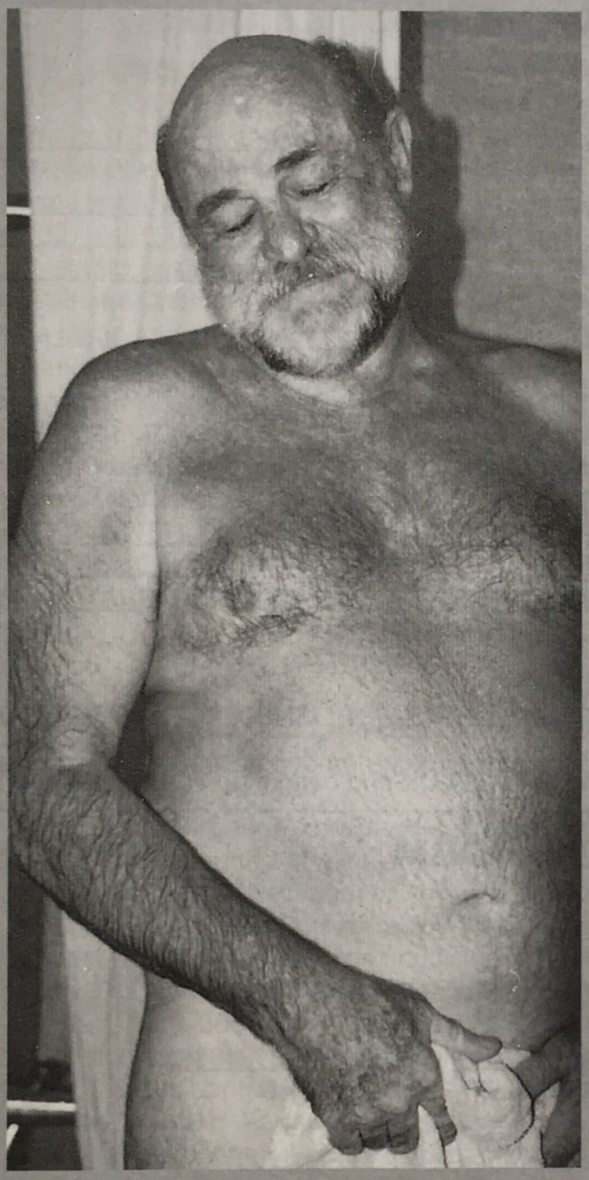
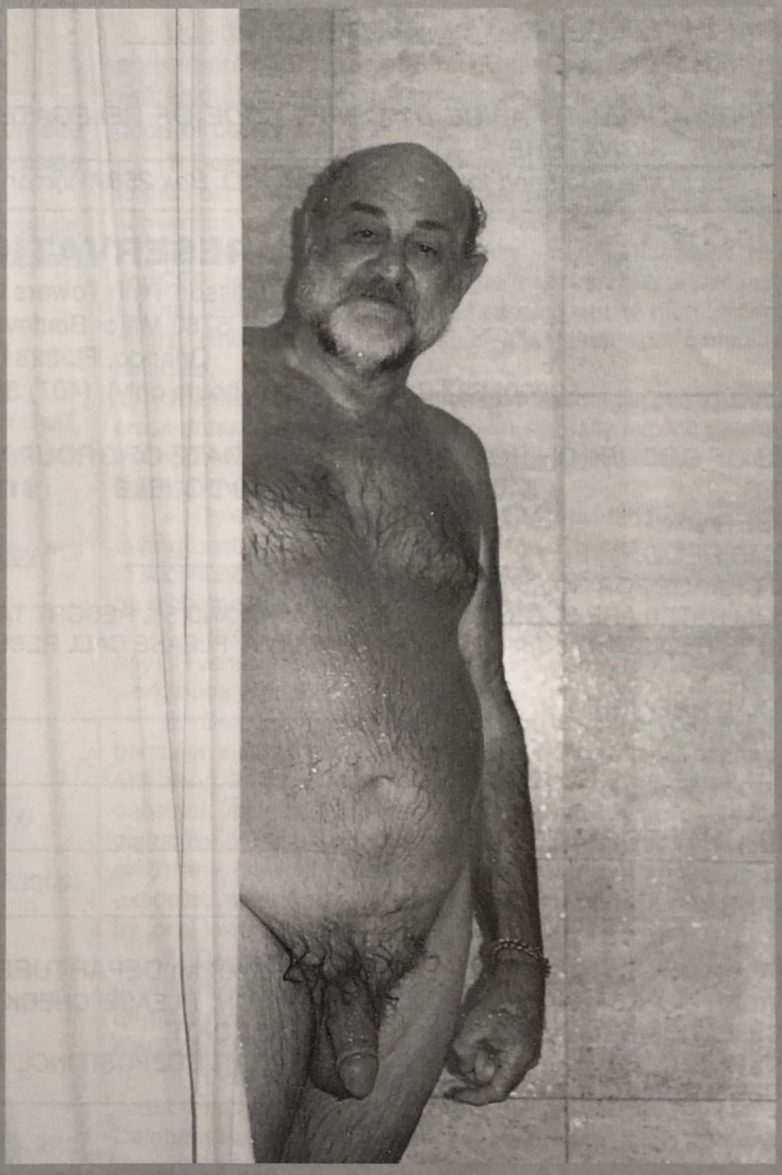
Fax (573) 754 4665
http://www.hevanet.com/arwil/tlc.html

E.L. RUKO



photos by PAL





GATHERING 99
REGISTRATION FORM

(one form per household, please - please print legibly)

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

NAME: _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

NAME: _____ COUNTRY: _____

BADGE FIRST NAMES:_____/_____/_____ PACKAGE SELECTED: A _____ B _____

CR MODEL NAMES: _____/_____/_____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

I WILL _____/ WILL NOT _____ BE STAYING AT THE HOST HOTEL.

I NEED A ROOMMATE: SMOKE ____/NONSMOKE ____
AND CAN BE REACHED AT:
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (_____) _____

I WILL BE ROOMING WITH: _____

WILL THIS BE YOUR FIRST GATHERING? _____

SPECIAL DIET: KOSHER _____ VEGETERIAN _____

I HEREBY AGREE TO ABIDE BY CRPI'S CODE OF DELEGATE BEHAVIOR AS PUBLISHED IN CHIRON RISING MAGAZINE. SIGNATURE: _____

[cut at line and send top portion to CR, P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393. Send bottom portion to hotel]

HOTEL RESERVATIONS FORM

Radisson Twin Towers Orlando
5780 Major Boulevard
Orlando, FL 32819
(800) 327-2110 (business hours only) (407) 351-1000 Fax: (407) 363-0106

NAME OF GROUP: CHIRON RISING DATE OF GROUP: MAY 27 THROUGH MAY 31, 1999

RATES:	$109/SINGLE	$109/DOUBLE	$119/TRIPLE	$129/QUAD
NUMBER OF ROOMS REQD.	_____	_____	_____	_____

* $10 CHARGE FOR ROLLAWAYS PER NIGHT.
* ROOM RATES ARE SUBJECT TO 6% STATE TAX AND 5% RESORT TAX
* SUITES REQUESTS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. PLEASE CALL RESERVATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

SPECIAL REQUESTS: _____

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: ( ) _____

ADDITIONAL ROOM OCCUPANTS: _____ TOTAL IN PARTY _____

ADDRESS: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

ARRIVAL DATE: _____(CHECK IN TIME IS 3:00 PM) DEPARTURE DATE _____ (CHECK OUT TIME IS 12:00 NOON)
IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE YOUR RESERVATION, PLEASE CHECK ONE BELOW. DEPOSIT IS FULLY REFUNDABLE IF CANCELLATION RECEIVED 48 PRIOR TO ARRIVAL DATE.
CHECK ENCLOSED $ _____(FIRST NIGHT'S DEPOSIT INCL. TAX, PAYABLE TO RADISSON TWIN TOWERS ORLANDO)
CREDIT CARD ACCOUNT NO. _____ EXP. DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____
ROOM RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE APRIL 26, 1999. RESERVATIONS AFTER THAT DATE WILL BE GRANTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS WITH NO GUARANTEE OF SPECIAL ROOM RATES.

CR'S NINTH ANNUAL SPRING GATHERING
RADISSON TWIN TOWERS HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER
ORLANDO, FLORIDA - MAY 27 THROUGH 31, 1999

THE HOST HOTEL AND RATES

The host hotel is the Radisson Twin Towers Orlando, 5780 Major Blvd., Orlando, FL 32819. Hotel reservations are the responsibility of delegates and may be made by calling (800) 327-2110 (Foreign: 407-351-1000), Monday through Friday during business hours, and identifying yourself as being with the Chiron Rising Gathering group. You may also make a reservation by completing the reservation form in this issue and sending it to the hotel. Reservations must be guaranteed. Rates are: Single/Double - $109; Triple - $119; Quad - $129. Rates are good for three days prior to and/or three days after convention dates. Rates are noncommissionable. NOTE: CALLS TO THE ABOVE 800 NUMBER AFTER BUSINESS HOURS WILL ROLL OVER TO RADISSON NATIONAL RESERVATIONS, WHO CANNOT TAKE RESERVATIONS FOR OUR CONVENTION.

THE CR EVENTS

Thursday, May 27: Badge pickup, will-call, and on-site sales; welcome reception; cabaret entertainment; and poolside socializing.

Friday, May 28: Badge pickup, will-call, and on-site sales; orientation for Gathering virgins and shy types; welcome reception; cabaret entertainment.

Saturday, May 29: Pool aerobics class, vendor hall, workshops, recitals, art exhibits, poolside entertainment, reception, D.J. dancing.

Sunday, May 30: Pool aerobics class, vendor hall, workshops, recitals, art exhibits, poolside entertainment, reception, awards banquet, candlelight vigil, D.J. dancing.

Monday, May 31: Farewell breakfast.

Note: All receptions will utilize cash bars provided by the hotel. CR will provide munchies.

EVENT FEES

"A" PACKAGE: Includes all events.
10/1 through 12/31/98 - $159
1/1/99 through 5/15/99 - $179
At the door - $189 (subject to space availability)

"B" PACKAGE: Includes all events except awards banquet and breakfast.
10/1 through 12/31/98 - $135
1/1/99 through 5/15/99 - $155
At the door - $165

WILL-CALL

"A" PACKAGE - Pay us $30 any time prior to 4/30/99, and we will have a package made up for you. Pay $159 at the door to claim the package.

"B" PACKAGE - Pay us $30 any time prior to 4/30/99, and we will have a package made up for you. Pay $135 at the door to claim the package.

CANCELLATION REFUNDS

The above fees are non-refundable except in cases of doctor-confirmed ill health or the death of a family member or mate, in which case they are fully refundable. Provided cancellation is made no later than May 24, 1999, CR will credit delegate's account for the full amount remitted. **If you are unsure of your ability to attend, have no use for a $100+ CR credit, but are willing to risk $30, we highly recommend that you use our will-call option.**

DELEGATE AGREEMENT

Delegates are no longer required to sign a delegate agreement prior to registering. Signature upon badge pickup will acknowledge that each delegate accepts the following code of behavior:

1. Delegate is responsible for any damage he causes to be done to the host hotel in excess of normal wear during the dates of the convention or for the duration of his stay.

2. Delegate agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the hotel and CRPI against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from errors, omissions, or negligent or intentional acts committed by delegate.

3. Delegate agrees to refrain from wearing in public costumes, cross-dressing apparel, clothing with sexually explicit or offensive inscriptions thereon, or "thong" bathing suits. Ethnic or religious apparel is exempt.

4. Delegate agrees to wear the CR-provided badge at all times during functions and understands that he will not be granted entrance to such functions without one. Delegate understands that there will be a charge of $30 to replace a lost badge.

5. Delegate understands that video cameras are banned from any CR venue, including poolside. Videography may be taken during workshops with permission of the host only.

6. Delegate agrees not to indulge in a) sexually suggestive behavior, such as passionate kissing, fondling oneself or another, or exhibiting obscene gestures outside the private rooms; b) offensive behavior, including the verbal or physical abuse of another; c) disruptive or potentially damaging behavior caused by intoxication; or d) any criminal behavior, including but not limited to genital exposure, sexual acts, or any other act deemed obscene or criminal by local laws.

7. Delegate agrees not to host, videotape, or be a party to any unauthorized gathering organized by clandestine invitation or word-of-mouth for the purpose of group sex or any other activity which could damage CRPI's reputation or relationship with the hotel.

8. Delegate understands that the breach of this agreement could result in his expulsion from the convention without refund. Delegate further understands that the breach of this agreement as regards item 6d could result in his arrest and prosecution.

CR PRICE LIST AND ORDER FORM

MAGAZINES

	U.S. FIRST CLASS AIRMAIL- CANADA/MEXICO CENTRAL/SO AMERICA	AIR MAIL ELSEWHERE
SUBSCRIPTIONS 6 bimonthly issues.	48.00	60.00

(circle which applies)

CR BACK ISSUES: 70 thru 76, 78, 79, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87 — 8.00 EA — 10.00 EA

Note: Postage and handling charges are included in the above pricing. Not subject to sales tax.

List back issues ordered: _____ @ _____ $ _____

PERSONAL AD

BASIC AD: _____ Words @ 30 cents per word X _____ Issues = $ _____

CODE WORD: @ 5.00 X _____Issues= _____

TELEPHONE VERIFICATION @5.00 (one time charge per ad) _____

CONVENTION

ORLANDO 99 - "A" ( ) Persons @ 159.00 ea (179.00 after 12/31/98) $ _____

"B" ( ) Persons @ 135.00 ea (155.00 after 12/31/98) $ _____

APPAREL

White or black adjustable cap	14.95 EA
Black/suede bill adjustable cap	19.95 EA
Forest green polo - L, XL (circle item)	36.95 EA
Forest green polo - 2X, 3 X (circle item)	38.95 EA
Tan polo - L, XL (circle item)	36.95 EA
Tan polo - 2X, 3X (circle item)	38.95 EA
Add Shipping and Handling	
U.S.A., Canada, Mexico, Central America, South America	5.00 per order
Europe	7.00 per order
Africa, Middle East, Pacific Rim	8.00 per order
(California Sales Tax paid by CRPI)	

TOTAL ENCLOSED U.S. $ _____

NOTE: DO NOT SEND CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS FOR LESS THAN $10.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT: Check ____ Money Order ____ VISA ____ MASTER CARD ____ AMERICAN EXPRESS ____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration _____

Signature (the signing of this form authorizes the above charges): _____

Your credit card billing address for verification only: _____

ALLOW 6 TO 8 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY. WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFISCATION BY FOREIGN CUSTOMS. Enclose check or money order in U.S. funds (postal money order or American Express Moneygram only from overseas-no checks unless through U.S. banks), payable to CHIRON RISING. SEND CASH AT YOUR OWN RISK. Mail to CHIRON RISING PUBLICATIONS, INC., P.O. Box 2589, Victorville, CA 92393.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ST (PROVINCE)/ZIP (CODE):_____

COUNTRY (If other than U.S.A.): _____

I certify that I am over the age of 18, having been born on Day ____/ Month ____/ Year ____.

Signature: _____

ALL OUR PRODUCTS ARE MAILED DISCREETLY

HOW TO ORDER A CLASSIFIED AD

NOTE: WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR AD NO LATER THAN: 12/31/98 FOR CR89; 2/ 28/99 FOR CR90; 4/30/99 FOR CR91

1. On a sheet of paper,TYPE OR LEGIBLY PRINT your ad the way you want it to appear in CR, then figure your cost by filling out the previous form.

2. Multiply the number of words by 30 ¢ and multiply that times the number of issues in which you want the ad to appear.

3. If you are using a codeword (An alias only you and we know. We receive your mail, decode and forward to you), you must multiply $5 by the number of issues in which you want the ad to appear and add to the total. If you do use a codeword, make sure it is unique. We will assign another name if your particular codeword has already been taken.

4. If you want to use your telephone number in the ad, you must include $10 for a one time verification and add that to the total as well (not applicable if you've placed an ad with your telephone number in the past year).

IMPORTANT:

YOU MUST USE YOUR REAL NAME, AN ALIAS OR INITIALS IF YOU USE A P.O. BOX. WE WILL NOT ALLOW THE USE OF "OCCUPANT" OR "BOX HOLDER" OR A BLANK SPACE. YOU MAY NOT PLACE AN AD FOR SOMEONE ELSE. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ALTER, RE-WRITE OR REJECT ANY AD WE FEEL IS NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THIS PUBLICATION. YOUR REAL NAME, ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE AT THE BOTTOM OF YOUR NOTE INDICATES THAT YOU AUTHORIZE THE PRINTING OF THE AD AND TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY INCIDENT OR RELATIONSHIP RESULTING THEREFROM. YOUR AD WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED WITHOUT THIS INFORMATION INCLUDED.

SAMPLE AD ORDER

DEAR CHIRON RISING,

PLEASE PLACE THE FOLLOWING AD IN YOUR NEXT AVAILABLE ISSUE UNDER UTAH:
(NOTE: THE WORD COUNT IS INTENDED FOR A GUIDE FOR CUSTOMER. NOT REQUIRED FOR AD.)

"SALT LAKE CITY/NATIONWIDE: GWM, 66, 5'-8", 187#, bald with white fringe, seeks 30-65,
(word count) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
preferably hairy and stocky, for friendship and more. I enjoy skiing, hiking, camping, fishing, cooking,
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
traveling, and gardening. Your photo (will return) and telephone number will get a prompt reply.
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45
Write: J.D., 17 Moonfinch Road, Black Rock, UT 84199
46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

My name and address: Col. Jack Deegan
17 Moonfinch Road
Black Rock, UT 84199

The pricing calculation for my ad is enclosed (from page 55).

I authorize the printing of the above ad and take full responsibility for any incident or relationship resulting therefrom. I am over the age of 18.

Signed: _____

ORDERS NOT USING THE ABOVE FORMAT WILL BE RETURNED. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE DO NOT SEND NOTICES OUT THAT YOUR AD IS EXPIRING. THE DATE PRECEDING YOUR AD IS YOUR EXPIRATION DATE.

HEY, DOES YOUR MAILING LABEL INDICATE THAT YOU ARE A V2 OR V3? THEN YOUR ADS ARE **FREE!**

GECKO BEN
by p.h. colley

The first time we met Ben and Erle was at a party in Garden Grove. It wasn't just a party—it was a gathering of perhaps the nicest bunch of men we have ever met. If you're an old-timer with CR, you'll remember that in the beginning in Orange County there was MAC & DENNY, who we introduced to HAMHOCK (before KIMBEAR, who came along later and made things even better), who already knew GERMEX & SNOWFIRE and BEN & ERLE , not to mention BOB & MAC, TIM & PHIL, and about 20 others I could list, but you get the point. This group of Orange County men would come to mean so very much to us personally and to CR as well. If it wasn't the potluck parties, it was Sunday breakfast for 30 in Huntington Beach. Drive 200 miles round-trip just to have breakfast with 28 other guys? It was WORTH IT. And I could write a story about any of the Huntington Beach Breakfast Bunch that would be worthy of CR, but this one is reserved for Ben, who died of lung cancer at the age of 54 on November 5th.

Benjamin Dial graduated from Texas A & M in 1972 with a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. Determined to be a professional scientist, he landed an undergraduate lab assistant (herpetology) job and started work on his M.S., which he earned in 1975. He became a graduate teaching assistant (zoology, botany)—later, instructor (vertebrate ecology)—at North Texas State University, where he began work on his Ph.D. Earning his Ph.D. in Biology in 1981, he became a visiting assistant professor of human anatomy, human physiology, comparative anatomy, and introductory biology at Texas A & M. That's when he met Erle, who lived in Dallas. In 1984, Ben accepted the position of assistant professor at Chapman College, and in 1990 became an associate professor of human anatomy, herpetology, natural history and evolution of the vertebrates, ecology, and general biology. In 1993, he became a research associate in the Section of Herpetology at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. In 1998, he became a full professor at Chapman.

From the time Ben met Erle in 1981, their relationship was a long-distance one. Ben would fly to Dallas and spend each weekend with Erle. Then, towards late 1988 and 1989, Ben's heart began to fail and he became a transplant candidate. After receiving the heart of a 17-year-old and having no idea how long he would have to use it, he decided to make the best of his life. He published seven more scientific papers and presented ten more research presentations at international scientific meetings, including Oxford University in England. We're talking about everything from the behavioral ecology of two Chihuahuan Desert geckos (1978) to olfaction and predator detection in *Coleonyx brevis* (1996). During his career: 15 papers published in refereed journals; 18 abstracts published; research presentations and research-symposium participation at prestigious universities all over the world on 18 occasions; 10 major honors and awards; and 12 grants from 1973 through 1997.

In August, 1989, he and Erle drove a Jeep Cherokee the entire length of the Baja California Peninsula to study reptiles. In July, 1991, the couple drove the same Jeep from California down the east coast of Mexico, through Belize, entering Guatemala on the eastern border with Belize to the Mayan ruins of Tikal, then south through central Guatemala and into Honduras, then back to Guatemala, out the western border into Mexico's Chiapas state, up the west coast of Mexico to Texas, then back to Southern California. Four weeks, and 6,000 miles!

How his students benefited! In January of 1991, he and Erle flew 12 of Ben's Tropical Biology students to rain forests and cloud forests in Costa Rica. Next thing he knew Erle moved to California to live with him. What a shot in the arm that was! During spring break in 1993, they took ten students to the Galapagos Islands off the coast of Ecuador.

In August of 1993, he and Erle drove from L.A. to Batopilas, Mexico, what Ben calls the most remote place he has ever visited. The town is at the bottom of Copper Canyon in the Sierra Madre Occidental Mountains southwest of Chihuahua. Granted, lots of tourists see the canyon via the train from the rim, but few venture into the bottom of the canyon by Jeep. But that wasn't Ben. There was a tropical deciduous forest to explore, with lots and lots of reptiles to check out.

It came as a shock to Ben later when Erle's health began to fail. After all, it was Ben who was supposed to be living on borrowed time. In late 1994 Erle was diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus. We didn't see them a lot, but we stayed pretty much in touch. Erle was a prominent businessman from Dallas with old money and lots and lots of children and grandchildren, but his family allowed Ben to provide care for the grand man up to the end.

Ben would take Erle to the university with him and lovingly place him in a comfortable chair with his students. He was so very proud of Erle, and, of course, his students knew the score and thought it was cool. Sometimes Erle would sleep; sometimes he would listen in rapt attention as Ben lectured. But then the end came.

From Ben's account of Erle's death:

9 May 1995. Tuesday, 6 AM. He was OK as we slept all night. Long,

peaceful breathing. Not much pain.

7 AM. He lay next to me, still asleep, but it was different then. His breathing was different. Short, incredibly labored bursts of breath. Panting, with much effort.

I knew.

He awoke. I brought him some canned pears in heavy syrup, just for the calories.

10 AM. His breathing was even more labored than before. The supplemental oxygen was doing no good. His pain had increased significantly. I called the oncologist to request that some morphine be delivered. A hospice nurse checked on us and left.

He lay on his left side. I lay on my left side up against his back. I held him. I needed to touch him as much as possible. I stroked his snow-white hair with my right hand. My tears wouldn't stop. As I stroked, I told him that it was OK. That it was OK to go. Today, I still don't know if I really meant it. I just wanted him to know that I was OK.

Noon: No morphine. I called the oncologist again, got the run-around, and hung up with anger.

12:55. I looked at him and said, "I love you." His Pacific-blue eyes looked right into my eyes.

Five minutes later, at 1 PM, his breathing changed quickly to long, peaceful breaths once again. I looked into his eyes, but this time he was not looking at me. Instead, he was looking through me.

For the next 25 minutes, his respiration became slower and slower. Then, at 1:25, he stopped breathing and his eyes closed. And that was it.

I lay holding him and weeping for three hours. I needed to get every bit of this man's life. Every bit of the metabolic heat that his body had in it. As it left his body, on its unending journey as entropy through the universe, all of that heat passed through me. Finally, his body was room temperature.

He was 87. That is a long time, and it was all golden for him. I had him for 14 years and 11 days. It was all golden for me, too.

Ben mourned mostly by himself. We tried to get him to come out to our place, but he wanted to stay busy teaching. Eventually he began to attend parties again. Instead of sitting at the bar, as he and Erle always did, he sat in the living room and talked quietly with some of the guests. That delightful smile was still there, but the effervescence was gone. I chose to sit with him, and we talked—mostly about science and sex. He relished hearing delicious details about my previous sexual exploits, especially if the seduced one was elderly. I, on the other hand, wanted to hear all about Mayan culture, rain forest birds, and edible Mojave flora.

One day he called and said that he had met a "neat" married guy who was "awesome." The guy turned out to be our model PICO. I told him that I didn't really know that much about him, only that he visited us once and seemed to be a very nice guy. Well, Pico called again, and again, and before long Ben was madly in love with him. It looked like a classic "Back Street" affair, where the married guy calls out of the blue once every week or so and expects the lover to be ready for another quickie. But Ben was far from being delusional. He knew perfectly well the limitations. He had no desire to know Pico's real name or anything about his family. He devoted himself to teaching and being ready for Pico's next call.

We saw Ben rarely after his relationship with Pico blossomed, but he would call from time to time. I'm embarrassed to admit it, but I resented Pico for taking Ben away from us. Pico became the second love of his life, after Erle, and what Pico had to give was apparently quite enough to nurture the relationship. He even separated from his wife. It became evident that both men were getting a lot of substance out of their bond. You had to be happy for them.

We hadn't heard from Ben in well over a year when he called a few weeks ago to tell us he had terminal lung cancer, that he had no more than six months to live. We were distraught, but he insisted that we rejoice, as did he, that he had lived much longer than expected with the transplanted heart, and that he was able to have known two magnificent loves with Erle and Pico. He asked if I would publish some photos of Pico, to help him find someone nice. I told him I would, provided the photos were technically acceptable and that Ben would allow me to write an article about him. He began to cry. Why would I possibly want to write about him? I don't think he ever truly understood why, but I made it clear that I preferred to write an article, not an obituary or a eulogy. He assured me that he would stay alive until the December issue came out. We even made a not-so-tongue-in-cheek pact that we would attempt to contact one another exactly 11 days after his death.

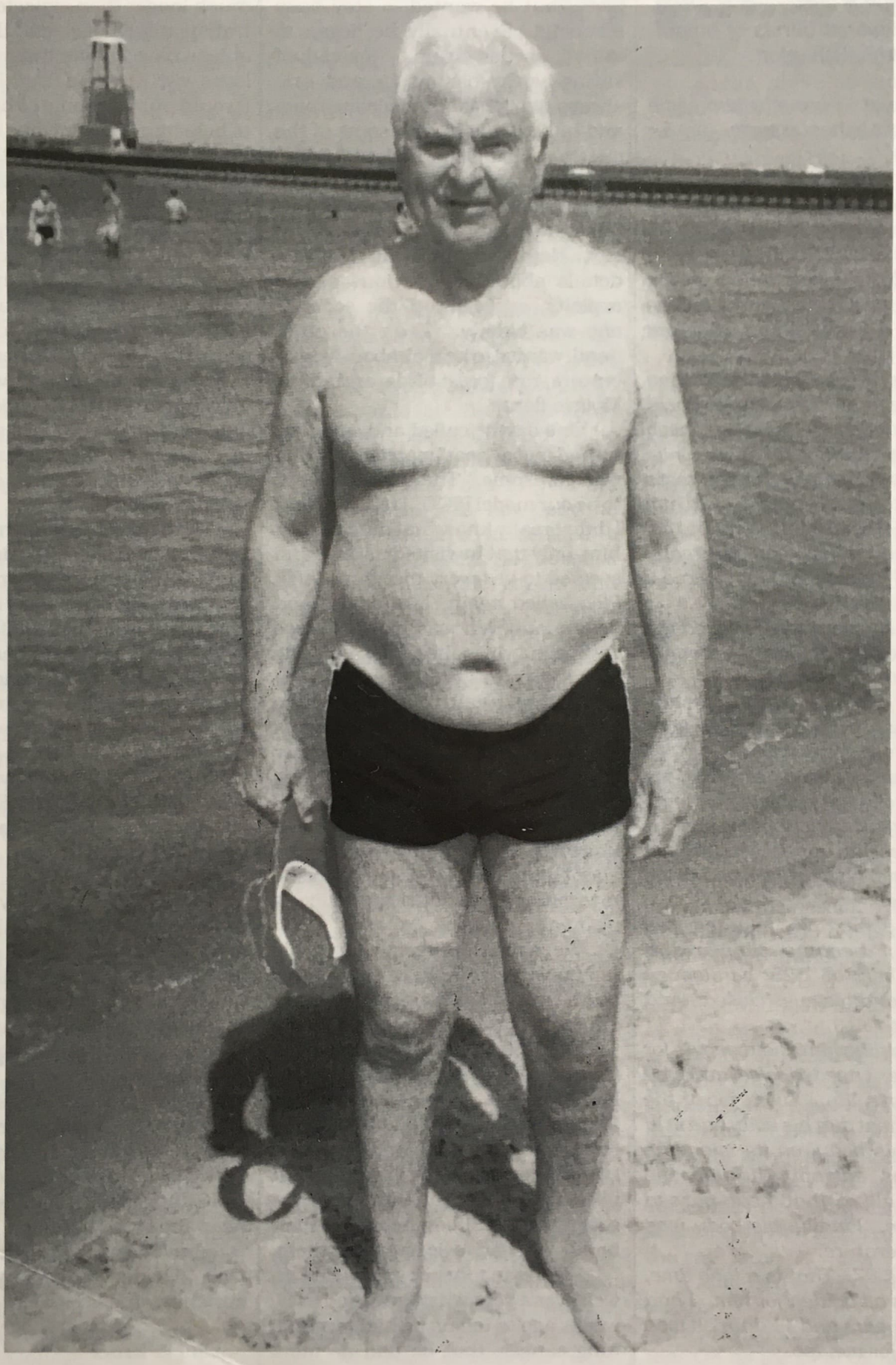
Pico is the one who informed us that Ben died peacefully in his sleep at 5:00 PM on November 5th. The hospice people, having been instructed to advise me of his death, failed to call me. I wonder if anyone abided by his wishes and had him cremated, but Pico assured me that all his wishes were taken care of. I wonder who will be the hero who, against Erle's family's wishes, will spread Ben's ashes over Erle's grave in Lancaster, Texas. I'm sure that Ben figured out a way to have it done.

As you can see, my promises have been kept, and I will sit on an outcropping of rocks in the desert at 5:00 PM on November 16th, perhaps to catch a glimpse of Ben's journey as entropy through the universe ... perhaps to get some insight into my own coming journey. If all I experience is a brilliant sunset and the sound of a gentle desert wind, then Ben will be honored with a period of silence and meditation. If something else happens, you will hear about it in the next issue.

Bravo for a magnificent life, Dr. Dial. Thank you so very much for enriching our lives. *Pax vobiscum.*

Pat & Bruce

CHICAGO DONALD



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SANTA STEVE ...little rab SANTA CLAUS ... joel CHUCKEE ... dandee

GATHERING '98
photoman